

North Kildonan United Church

Minutes of the Unified Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Attendees:	Rev. Susan	Grant McMillan
	Paula Thomson	Clayton Gording
	Gay Todd	Linda Slade
	Sheila Fortier	Sheron Miller
	Val Mikolajek	Marvelle McPherson
	Karen Kearney	Scotty McLaren

Regrets: Del Sexsmith

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Opening Scripture and Prayer: Sheila Fortier

Approval of Agenda: Motion to accept agenda of January 6, 2026

Moved: Grant McMillan

Seconded: Marvelle McPherson

Carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to accept minutes of December 2, 2025

Moved: Sheron Miller

Seconded: Paula Thomson

Carried

Correspondence: None

Minister's Report: Circulated/Oral

Much of my time since our last meeting was spent focused on Advent and Christmas services and events. I am grateful to all those who helped plan and lead the services, including to Wilma Fehr and the children & youth (and friends) for the Christmas program on December 21, and to the Worship Committee for the service on Dec 28th.

I officiated at one funeral service in December, which was for Myrle Gard and held at the Chapel Lawn Funeral Home on December 23rd. Four others from NKUC were in attendance at the service, including one who spoke.

I will be out of the office and away from work from January 7-16, to attend to some personal matters. I will still be reachable by phone (cell phone) text and email and will be doing a bit of work while away. I am rearranging other commitments during that time

period, including Wednesday morning study group and worship at the Kildonan Personal Care Centre. Peter Latimer and Gay Todd will be leading worship service on January 11th, for which I am very grateful!

We are now headed towards Lent, which starts fairly early this year. Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent) is on February 18th, and Easter will be on April 5th. Plans for this season are underway.

Lastly, I believe that the numbers are only a part of the congregational story, but that numbers related to both finances and attendance are sometime helpful as we consider the big picture of church life. To that end, here the attendance numbers for 2025, with comparison also to 2024:

	2024	2025
Annual Average (Sundays Only)	64.2	64.0
Ash Wednesday	19	*Held at Transcona Memorial UC with 43 total in attendance. 10 were from NKUC
Good Friday	49	47
Easter Sunday	86	75
Blue Christmas (bad weather)	27	31
Christmas Eve	98	83

Thank you, and blessings to each of you in this new year.

Treasurer's Report: Circulated/Oral

Reports circulated: NKUC General & MCP-Savings & Chequing Accounts for the month ending December 31, 2025 & General Account Year to Date 2024 & 2025 Actual vs 2026 annual budget

Motion to accept Treasurer's report: Linda Slade

Seconded: Clayton Gording

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education: Circulated/Oral

The Children's Christmas play took place on Sunday, December 14 with a different approach. Due to the lower number of children, we included adult members of our

community of faith as well. Thank you to all who took part and contributed to the play. A special thanks, as always, goes to Wilma Fehr for her selection, planning, organizing and directing of the play.

The Youth Group delivered our Christmas hampers to the three selected families on December 21st. Thank you to the members of our community of faith for their incredible generosity in contributing to the hampers. Thank you to Maria Lindsay and Richard Miller who along with Grant McMillan drove for the deliveries.

The Youth Group along with the Outreach Committee will be hosting a pancake brunch after the Church service on Sunday, February 8th.

Stewardship: Circulated/Oral

1. Fundraising:

1. Garage Sale

- The date for our Garage Sale has been set for April 24 and 25 of 2026.
- Recruitment of volunteers will commence shortly.
- Large item donations can now be received and placed in our storage container.

2. Bedding Plant Sale

- We have registered with Glenlea Greenhouse to hold our annual plant sale and work is underway to prepare for this spring sale.

3. Proposed Comedy/Musical evening: Bruce Clark has offered to arrange an evening of entertainment as a fundraiser for NKUC; however, he is only here for the last week of April, which is right at the time of our Garage Sale. We have proposed postponing it until April of 2027, at which time we would host another \$100 per person evening, including dinner and entertainment. We are awaiting his response.

2. Property and Maintenance

- Snow removal required four times in December and once already in January at a cost of \$435 per clearing.
- The valve on our main water supply line needs to be replaced, which will require the city to shut our water off for a short period of time. This will be done in early spring.

3. Hospitality

- Planning is currently underway for Sunny Sunday – January 25/26.

M&P: Oral

Not a lot to report. There is a need to look at supporting staff during the Christmas season.

Nominating Committee: As per Del:

The Committee has met to identify its work and is in the process of contacting representatives for various committees in 2026. Next meeting January 15th.
The present volunteers stay in their positions until after the annual meeting.

Outreach & Mission: Oral

The committee will be assisting with the pancake brunch. Nancy Cosway is the new chair of the committee.

Communications Committee: Oral

Peter Latimer is preparing the next newsletter to be out around Easter.

Pastoral Care: Circulated/Oral

Pastoral Care continues to be very busy. Lots of people needing visits, in person or by telephone. Several folks' undergoing treatment, procedures etc., awaiting results.

Christmas visits and/or calls were made to all those on the shut-in list.

Blue Christmas invitations were sent to eleven NKUC families who have lost someone this year, several of the recipients attended.

Goodie Bags from Santa were made and delivered to the children.

Rev. Susan officiated at a funeral for a long-time member of the congregation; three members of the Pastoral Care Team were also present.

Thanks for keeping us posted.

Worship Committee: Circulated/ Oral

1. Feedback of Worship services: Advent, TGJIGGN candle, Blue Christmas, Christmas Eve and Dec 28 service went well.
2. Funeral Policy/Guidelines review completed and are attached.
3. Continue service every 2nd Thursday at Kildonan Nursing Home
4. Jan 3 Sat – undecorating church
5. Jan 11 Rev. Susan away. Peter Latimer and Gay Todd will do service.
6. Jan 25 Sunny Sunday visiting Egypt. Peter has written script. Hospitality to provide luncheon.
7. Feb 8 Outreach helping youth with Pancake Brunch
8. March 8 International Women's Day. Outreach inviting speaker with regards to diaconal ministry in UC
9. April 19 Outreach doing Earth Day service
10. Prayer given to residents at last Kildonan Place service.

UCW: Circulated/Oral

UCW meeting and Christmas program was held on December 15, 2025.

So far there is no World Day of Prayer program being held in our catchment area.

Information was shared about the charities the UCW have supported in the past with

donations. Some donations were allocated and decisions regarding the other charities UCW will donate to, will be made at a later date.

Our meeting in January will be cancelled and the Executive will make a decision about holding the February meeting (weather related) closer to the month.

A Christmas devotion was presented by Heather Boroski, Barb Wiebe and Donna Price. Some fun Christmas games were played afterward and prizes, courtesy of Carol Barrett were awarded to the winners!! 😊

Lots of conversation, laughter and stories were shared. Tasty goodies and coffee and tea were provided.

We were blessed to have had several visitors from the congregation with us at this meeting and I share a quote from a UCW member,

“A very full year for many and a blessing that NKUC women can share these days in ways that build solidarity, community, friendship and joy” AMEN!!

BUSINESS ARISING:

Wilma confirmed that Board Reports for the Annual Report are due January 21st.

Confirmed that Heidi has agreed to join Del, Sheila and Susan on The Constitutional Review Committee.

A short note was included in the last newsletter regarding the date of the Annual Meeting. The date will also be put in the weekly news.

NEW BUSINESS:

Towards 2035 – next steps:

United churches are being invited to do some future planning. Some resources are available for our use. Rev. Susan is looking at these resources and Sheila will circulate the information from Prairie to Pine.

Discussion held about some thoughts on how to draw folks into our church. Lots of good ideas shared. A subcommittee will be set up to discuss these ideas further.

Date of Next Meeting: February 3, 2026

Closing Prayer: Rev. Susan Reed

Time Adjourned: 7:40

Sheila Fortier (Chair)

Karen Kearney (Secretary)