

Humbercrest UC Council, Approved Minutes

May 26, 2026, 7:00 pm

Attendees: Aileen, Barb, Howard, Linda, Marg, Vince, Charlie, Rev. Diane

Regrets: Dorothy, Libbie

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement - Rev. Diane

Inclusivity Checklist - Howard

Prayer - Vince

Administrative Ministry of the Church - (5 min.)

Motion: Barb/Aileen

Carried

That Council approve the minutes of the April 28 2026 meeting.

Motion: Linda/Vince

Carried

That Council approve the Agenda as amended.

Correspondence: Howard received an email re communication and welcoming within the congregation and will reply.

Chair's Report - Howard - no report

Minister's Report - Rev. Diane - Rev. Diane thanked the Devotion Team re the Affirm centred Worship Service this past Sunday. She loved working with Special Guest Preacher Rev. Dr. Cheri DiNovo.

Rev. Diane asked Council what will HUC be known for in 2035. Responses were aligned with priorities established last Fall.

Rev. Diane thanked Council for the support and celebration of her success in the Admissions process. Aileen brought flowers, treats and drinks to mark this achievement.

1. Minister's Report

Over the past month, I have continued to lead worship, provide pastoral care through visits, phone calls, and conversations, and engage with members of the Humbercrest community through both formal and informal gatherings.

I have been preparing upcoming services and special events, including Affirm/Pride Sunday and the Kenyan Gospel Music Extravaganza, while continuing to strengthen relationships within the congregation and community.

I also participated in workshops and learning opportunities, including the Shining Waters Regional workshop on conversations worth having. The emphasis on discipleship, community engagement, intergenerational ministry, and sustainable leadership aligns well with many of the priorities Council has already identified for Humbercrest.

In addition, I have an interview to complete my final Admission Board interview as part of my journey toward admission to ministry in The United Church of Canada scheduled for May 26, 2026 at 5.30pm.

I remain grateful for the support, encouragement, and partnership of the Humbercrest community as we continue our ministry together.

2. Toward 2035 Follow-up

At our last meeting, we watched the Toward 2035 video, which is part of a United Church-wide conversation about what God is calling the church to become over the next decade. The emphasis is not on decline, but on hope, renewal, and faithful imagination. The vision is for communities of faith that are resilient, diverse, deeply connected to their local communities, and centred on continuing the story of Jesus in today's world.

As we continue our “**Towards 2035**” conversation, I'd like to invite us into a brief exercise. Let's simply listen for what God may be placing on our hearts for Humbercrest's future.

Instructions -Give each Council member a sticky note (or index card. Members are requested to write one short phrase answering this statement: 'In 2035, I hope Humbercrest will be known for...' Please write only one idea. There are no right or wrong answers.

These responses are not commitments or strategic plans, but they help us identify what matters most to us as we imagine Humbercrest's future. As we continue our planning and prioritization work, these themes can help guide our decisions and ensure that our efforts align with the future we hope God is calling us toward."

Follow-Up and New Business (30 min.)

1. **Disciplined Prioritization** - Rev. Diane - See Children's Ministry below.

2. **Wedding & Funeral Policies:** - Vince

Objective: To seek Council's approval for the final Funeral Policy and the updated Wedding Policy. Please see attached.

Council recommends that the Minister role and the Music Director role not be included in the fee system, rather, that these should stay under an Honorarium system as it is now.

Honorarium guidelines to be given from Council to the Minister and the Music Director if desired. Client is to speak directly with them regarding this.

Council suggests that a set fee is preferable to a fee range for Coordinators, Custodial set up, if needed, sanctuary and reception space and soloist if HUC is arranging.

It also recommends the use of inclusive language i.e. "they" rather than "he/she".

No motions were voted on.

3. **Children's Ministry** - Linda

Objective: To seek Council's support for a child-focused event to include the blessing of the backpacks on Monday September 7th from 3-4 pm

This was endorsed by Council. Volunteers needed.
Advertise event with area churches and the Affirm network.
Ask for donations from our congregation to buy supplies, up until the end of July.
Vince may have leads. Linda will talk to BIC stationery supplies, Staples for donations.

4. New Heritage Hall Piano – Howard

To provide the rationale for accepting the piano bequest from the estate of Eva Michalak.

Howard thought it provided an upgrade and would occupy only a bit more space than the former one did. It needs a protection plan asap as well as a maintenance and tuning schedule. HH users will need to be educated about its care. What group/who is taking responsibility for these aspects?

5. BIC request to have their name put on the Electronic Sign

Objective: To seek Council approval to have the name of West Toronto BIC Church included.

Council agreed to add BIC as part of the display but not as part of the set frame of the new e-sign. If possible, Council agreed to post BIC, Keys, Unitarian Church for example on the renovated old sign.

6. Gospel Extravaganza – Rev. Diane, Vince, Linda

To confirm the process for collecting and accounting for cash payment at the door. Keep donations above entry fee separate. Council will review event costs and proceeds at June's meeting. Rev. Diane will connect with Linda Levin to clarify that proceeds after expenses are intended. Council affirmed its support for Village of Love.

7. Motion: Vince/Dorothy

Carried by e-vote May 22

To offer Rev. Dr. Cheri DiNovo an honorarium of \$300 and Eloise Morrison an honorarium of \$250 respectively as Guest Speakers May 24 and June 7.

Stewardship of our Resources – Treasurer – Charlie (15 min.)

Motion: Charlie/Marg

Carried

To approve Treasurer's report.

Our Shared Ministries (15 min.)

Community Team Report – Barb

May 3 – Marg Garrie and I hosted an impromptu, very casual Coffee and Tea Time amidst the remnants of our "May Sale".

May 24 - A special Coffee and Tea Time to Celebrate Affirm Sunday, was hosted by the Affirm/Devotion Committee with the assistance of Congregational Life. We had the opportunity to visit with our special guest minister, the Rev. Dr. Cheri DiNovo. Many thanks to everyone who provided food, helped with set up and clean up.

Devotion Team Report – Vince

Eloise Morrison will be our Guest Speaker June 7. The Devotion Team will host a Tea and Coffee Time.

This Sunday the 31st is the last formal Choir presence in church until the Fall. Choir will resume rehearsals Sept. 10. in preparation to leading musically Sept. 13 in worship. A soloist will lead during June. Marg P. will play for our services during August, Music Director Greg's holidays.

Facilities Team Report - Howard

OPEN PROJECTS LIST

- 1) Outdoor electronic sign – Permit likely to be issued June 9th.
- 2) Boiler system ionizer – BISS to get back with an installation date
- 3) AED training – Chris is exploring
- 4) Elevator door sticking and external woodwork in state of disrepair due to water damage – no progress
- 5) Roofing – winter storm repairs – a call has been put into Alex
- 6) 2013 Canon Printer replacement – proposal being revised
- 7) Lock – next steps request sent to Thom

OPEN PROJECTS DETAILS:

- 1) OUTDOOR SIGN: Variance approved May 3rd. Thirty day neighbourhood notice period initiated. Permit likely to be issued June 9th. Electrician tentatively lined up for mid-July with late July installation date.
- 2) IONIZER: Following a site visit April 13, BISS is proposing a lower cost option by attaching the ionizer to the outflow of the hot water tank. ~~~\$5,800~~ \$3,672.50
- 3) AED training - TBD
- 4) Elevator door edge and door frame edge sanded to reduce by not eliminate sticking. More sanding required. If not effective then will have to remove and plane. Manpower and time constraint challenges
- 5) ROOF REPAIRS: South gutters torn down by ice. Leaks in sanctuary & Minister's office closet, Marg met with roofers late January. Quote on repairs pending better weather
- 4) OFFICE PRINTER: Canon is revising proposal and I am seeking a second quote
- 5) LOCK: Thom exploring next steps on thumb latch fix.

CLOSED PROJECTS

- 1) Purchase of more chairs for BIC. 20 vinyl stacking chairs of a different design were purchased on FB Marketplace @\$35 – (listed @ \$40)
- 2) AED replacement batteries purchased and delivered on Friday May 15

ODDS & SODS - May

- 1) Centre doors concrete step repair underway – delayed by rain
- 2) Gardens refreshed by Marg, Cheryl and Donna
- 3) KEYS Women's washroom toilet leak repaired with new seal and bolts
- 4) Wall replaster repair in KEYS Women's washroom phase 1 done at same time
- 5) Aging hot and cold water tap shutoff valves replaced in both washrooms below Narthex
- 6) Hot water tap in Ladies Washroom D functional again – new cartridge put in

Resources Team Report - Marg G.

Use of Halls - May 25 – 26 Recording Sanctuary

Spring Sale

We had a successful 55th Spring Sale after a 6-year lapse. The banked amount on Sale Day was just under \$7,000, \$2,000. more than the Fall Sale amended report.

At the end of May final amended report will be available. This will include the amount owed to different sections, a well as consignment /on-line sales.

The good news was that we had roughly 95 people donating their time and energy to this event with 59 people selling on the day of the Sale. Considering that this year we had several people who would normally help but not this year for various reasons we had had a great response. The unsold items were donated to Goodwill, Sharing Place, Roncesvalles United church, Fairlawn United Church and Lambton-Kingsway Jr. Public School.

The Sale recycles, provides good items for a reasonable price to our customers and provides a chance to renew old acquaintances and make new ones.

Thank you to all who participated.

Trustees - Libbie - No report.

Ministry and Personnel - Aileen - Aileen and all of Council congratulated Rev. Diane on finishing her admission requirements to the UCC (will be officially admitted at Regional Annual Mtg in October).

Motion to Adjourn - 9:02 pm

Next meeting: June 23, 2026 in person