

**First United Church
Annual Congregation Meeting
December 11, 2016
Meeting Minutes**

Attendance: Donna Goertzen, Eugene Loughran, Sandie Woods, Miriam Galloway, Elwood Galloway, Jim Sheridan, Faye Sheridan, Alan Gummesen, Richard Lemieux, Gloria Lemieux, Dick Baker, Barb Baker, Jen Pollack, David Spearing, Freda Spearing, Grace Rumohr, Elleline Ansell, Lynda Hamilton, Phyllis Waite, Steve Waite, Evelyn Slade, Eleanor Heesing, Edna Melnyk, Joan Prochnau, Diane Durnford, Karen Martin, Ken Pollard, Kathleen Pollard, Rick Chaba, Marg Chaba, Brenda Nichols, Ben Decker, Camille Ream, Holly Dunford, Joan Orchard, Brent Orchard.

1. Welcome

Meeting begins at 11:45 am with opening prayer: Rev. Paul Walfall

2. Purpose/Agenda

Rick Chaba as chair, reviews the following items as our purpose for today:

- To Receive the Budget Report 2017
- Motion for voting privileges
- Treasurer's Overview
- Areas of Ministry
- Treasurer's Opening Comments
- Proposed 2017 Budget
- Questions
- Motion to accept a budget
- Looking ahead

3. Enabling Motion

Motion 16-12-19C: Understanding that members have the right to vote on all matters before this congregation meeting, it is moved that all Adherents be extended the right to vote on temporal matters placed before this meeting.

Moved: Faye Sheridan

Second: Donna Goertzen

Motion 16-12-20C: Voting will be by a show of hands in place of a paper ballot.

Moved: Al Gummesen

Second: Donna Goertzen

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4. Treasurer's Overview

Overview and opening comments as presented by Joan Prochnau:

- Budgeting is an aspect of stewardship. *Stewardship is the faithful care and use of our God-given resources.*
- Budgeting is the process of creating a plan to spend money.
- Creating the spending plan allows the church to determine in advance whether there will be enough money to do the things that need to be done or would like to do.
- If there isn't enough money to do everything in the spending plan then the budget is used to prioritize the spending and focus on things that must be done.
- The budget, revenue and expenses are consistently monitored by the Board. This helps determine the degree to which giving and ministry priorities are aligned.
- **Areas of Ministry**
 - a. Discipleship Ministries
 - b. Outreach Ministries
 - c. Property Maintenance
 - d. Stewardship Ministries
 - e. Worship & Music Ministries
 - f. Administration & Communication

The congregations received information on the current financial position of Fort Saskatchewan First United Church including the revenue and expense position and expected deficit and overdraft being used.

5. Proposed Budget

Presented by Joan Prochnau:

The 2017 Proposed Budget present Revenues at \$208,602.00, Expenses at \$278,144.00 and Deficit Budget of \$69,542.00. The current year deficit financial position is \$43,628.22.

The Proposed Budget for 2017 Includes:

- Discipleship Ministries: \$6,255 (2%)
- Outreach Ministries: \$24,411 (10%)
- Property Maintenance: \$48,125 (20%)
- Stewardship Ministries: \$3,205 (1%)
- Administration and Communication: \$57,708 (22%)
- Worship, Hospitality and Music: \$113,400 (45%)

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2017 Budget Highlights

- Last year a request for a balanced budget; not a great success.
- The only way to balance the budget was to increase the overall givings. Result was a major deficit.
- The overall conclusion from the JNAC report approved stated that the challenge between connection and growth requires more than a full-time Ministry position.
- Connections Coordinator for Justice and Outreach.
- Contract position for 10 hours/week at a rate of \$25/hour.
- Connections Coordinator for Children, Youth and Adults.
- Contract position for 10 hours/week at a rate of \$25/hour.
- These positions have NOT been included in the budget but should be. These were requests from the congregational meetings with the JNAC team

Motion 16-12-21C: That the 2017 Proposed Budget presented Not Be Approved and that a Financial Steering Committee be formed to look into the financial situation at Fort Saskatchewan First United focussing in 2 areas: Long Term Sustainability and a Revised Budget.

Moved: Ken French **Second:** Al Gummesen **Carried.**

Motion 16-12-22C: That in the interim from January 1, 2017 forward Fort Saskatchewan First United Church pay only expenses as are needed to continue the operations of the church.

Moved: Jackie St. Goddard **Second:** Carol Graham **Carried.**

Motion 16-12-23C: That Ken French be nominated as Committee Chair for the Financial Steering Committee. Ken French accepted and requested 5 additional volunteers for the committee: Richard Lemieux, Joan Prochnau, Jim Sheridan, Karen Martin and Sandra Woods.

Moved: Al Gummesen **Second:** Dave Spearing **Carried.**

Motion 16-12-24C: That Financial Steering Committee present to the First United Church Board a Revised Proposed Budget on or before March 1, 2017.

Moved: Joan Prochnau **Second:** Faye Sheridan **Carried.**

6. Other Business

Motion 16-12-25C: That Eleanor Heesing become the Chair of the Board of First United as of December 11, 2017 as the current chair is not able to complete the term set at the Congregation Meeting March 3, 2016.

Moved: Al Gummesen **Second:** Brent Graham **Carried.**

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7. Adjournment

Motion 16-12-26C: To adjourn the congregational meeting of First United Church at 12:30pm.

Moved: Al Gummesen

Second: Marg Chaba

Submitted by:

Sandra Woods, Congregation Meeting Secretary

Rick Chaba, Congregation Meeting Chair