

December 13, 2015

Fort Saskatchewan First United Church

**First United Church
Annual Congregation Meeting
December 13, 2015
Meeting Minutes**

Attendance: Donna Goertzen, Eugene Loughran, Sandie Woods, Dorothy Prime, Miriam Galloway, Elwood Galloway, Ted Griffiths, Jim Sheridan, Faye Sheridan, Cathy Pearson, Alan Gummesen, Richard Lemieux, Gloria Lemieux, Dick Baker, Barb Baker, Brent Graham, Frank Mayner, Jen Pollack, David Spearing, Freda Spearing, Grace Rumohr, Elleine Ansell, Lynda Hamilton, Phyllis Waite, Steve Waite, Jessie Hickman, Betty Hofs, Henry Hofs, Evelyn Slade, Helen Knorren-McGrath, Jim Cooper, Bill Heesing, Eleanor Heesing, Matthew Heesing, Carol Graham, Brent Graham, Edna Melnyk, Sara Roper, Joan Prochnau, Diane Durnford, Jackie St. Goddard (Presbytery Representative)

1. Welcome

Meeting begins at 12:15pm with opening prayer.

2. Purpose

Diane Durnford as acting chair, reviews the following items as our purpose for today:

- Motions for Chair and Secretary
- Motion for voting privilege
- Treasurer's Overview
- Areas of Ministry
- Treasurer's Opening Comments
- Proposed 2016 Budget
- Table Talk and Feedback
- Motion to accept a budget
- Looking ahead

Motion 15-12-23CC: That Diane Durnford act as Chair of this December 13, 2015 Congregational meeting.

Moved: Al Gummesen

Second: Jim Sheridan

Motion 15-12-24C: That Sara Roper act as secretary of this December 13, 2015 Congregational meeting.

Moved: Donna Goertzen

Second: Sandie Woods

3. Enabling Motion

Motion 15-12-25C: 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.

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Moved: Gloria Lemieux**Second:** Faye Sheridan**Motion 15-12-26C:** Voting will be by a show of hands in place of a paper ballot.**Moved:** Dick Baker**Second:** Jim Sheridan

4. Treasurer's Overview

The annual report was received and was accepted as a great representation of our Church and the Ministries involved. Special thanks go to those who worked on the annual report; Holly Durnford for compiling the reports and including colourful pictures depicting the life of our Church, as well as those in charge of committees who carefully planned and submitted reports to be included.

Overview 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 givings and ministry priorities are aligned

The following are our Celebrations of Ministries:

- Discipleship Ministries
- Outreach Ministries
- Property Maintenance
- Stewardship Ministries
- Worship, Hospitality & Music Ministries
- Administration & Communication.

Additionally, we celebrate the wider church ministries within the Fort Saskatchewan Neighbourhood, Yellowhead Presbytery, Alberta and Northwest Conference, and the United Church of Canada.

Proposed Budget includes:

- Discipleship Ministries: \$22,866 (9%)
- Outreach Ministries: \$41,566 (16%)
- Property Maintenance: \$52,110 (20%)
- Stewardship Ministries: \$8,800 (3%)
- Administration and Communication: \$61,664 (20%)

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- Worship, Hospitality and Music: \$75,588 (29%)

Budget Highlights:

- This is a very disappointing budget; basically it is a budget that covers basic operating costs and salaries.
- Programming to grow the church has not been included; will re-visit when Rev. Paul arrives and he can add his requests.
- The JNAC report, approved by the congregation, stated that the challenge between connection and growth requires more than a full-time Ministry position.
- When Rev. Paul was called it was with the understanding that two approved positions would be filled.
- Therefore the two approved positions are included in the budget:
 - Connections Coordinator for Children, Youth and Adults. Contract position for 10 hours/week at a rate of \$25/hour.
 - Connections Coordinator for Justice and Outreach. Contract position for 10 hours/week at a rate of \$25/hour

2016 Revenue Needs:

- Services Income: \$15,000 (6%)
- Fundraising Events: \$7,000 (3%)
- Non-receiptable: \$10,000 (4%)
- Gifts In Kind: \$1,500 (0.6%)
- Rental Income: \$19,000 (7%)
- Interest from Investments: \$1,000 (0.4%)
- General Offerings: \$159,588 (61%)

Table Talk and Feedback Questions:

- What do you appreciate about the budget?
 - Clarity
 - Conciseness
 - Well-put together
 - The work Joan Prochnau put into the budget
- What word best describes your feelings about the budget?
 - Disappointed
 - Hopeful
- What concerns you about the budget?

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- The money needed and used from our budget, to keep the building open, when we do not even own it
- Concerns that people will see the 2016 budget as a negative
- How are we going to fund programs?

Additionally, Joan Prochnau did state there is \$25,000 invested that we may not receive back. She is awaiting direction from the lawyer prior to providing the details to the congregation. She will address all details once we receive direction from the lawyer.

Motion 15-12-27C: That the 2016 budget for First United Church be approved and accepted as presented.

Moved: Donna Goertzen

Second: Al Gummesen

5. Adjournment

Motion 15-12-28C: To adjourn the congregational meeting of First United Church at 1:30pm.

Moved: Elwood Galloway

Second: Al Gummesen

Submitted by:

Sara Roper, Board Secretary

Diane Durnford, Meeting Chair