

First United Church
Meeting of Church Council
January 25, 2018

We, at First United Church, are called by the spirit to be a caring community of faith actively pursuing spiritual growth and compassionate outreach.

Members Present:

Maxine Olmsted, Ministry & Personnel	Brian McConkey, Stewardship
Donna Barber, UCW	Ila Wilms, Building & Property
Brenda Gruetzner, Outreach	Lucille Sorensen, Guest Presenter
Linda Stumpf, Faith Formation	Sharyn Erne, Membership & Pastoral Care
Annette Taylor, Minister	Adele Heise, Presbytery Rep
Peggy Worrell, Chair	Barbara Foster, Trustee
Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary	Amy Popick, Affirming Ministry

1. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order at 7:00. A quorum was present.
2. **Opening Devotion/Holy Manner #5** – Linda Stumpf (Faith Formation)
3. **Check In**
4. **A time for education and inspiration:** Lucille Sorensen presented on the Celebrating Spirit Conference held in Vancouver in July 2017 on the 55th Anniversary of UCW.
5. **Additional items were added to the agenda.**
6. **Motion: Ila Wilms/ Sharyn Erne "That we approve the agenda as amended."**
Carried.
7. **Acknowledgement of the Nov 28, 2017 Executive meeting minutes.**
8. **Motion: Brenda Gruetzner/Sharyn Erne "That we approve the Nov. 30, 2017 Church Council meeting minutes as circulated."** Carried.
9. **Business arising from the minutes**
Life Elders – Tabled.
10. **Correspondence**
 - a) Presbytery approval for Maxine Olmsted to serve on Council is pending.
 - b) Pat Bunkosky read the letter St Andrew's College sent to the congregation thanking the church for its support. Peggy Worrell will read the letter at the

Sunday Church service. The accompanying certificate will be displayed on a Church bulletin board.

11. **Minister's Report** (including Swift Current and Area Ministerial Association)

12. **Important Items from reports:**

- a) **Affirming Ministry:** Amy Popick from The Affirming Ministry Committee explained why they would like to retain the committee name.

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Ila Wilms "That the Affirming Ministry Committee keep its name." Carried.

Church Council expressed appreciation for Melanie Davis's thoughtful letter.

- b) **Stewardship** – Brian McConkey outlined changes to the budget.

- c) **Ministry and Personnel :**

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Linda Stumpf "That the contract time for the First United Church Youth Coordinator position be increased from 10 hours per week to 12 hours per week, effective January 1, 2018." Carried.

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Donna Barber "That the following clause be included in the Sunday School Coordinator's contract effective January 1, 2018: The Sunday School Coordinator may choose to bank time to be used at a later date. This is to accommodate busier times. Time shall be taken hour for hour." Carried.

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Brian McConkey "That the following clause be added to the Sunday School Coordinator's contract effective January 1, 2018: A maximum additional time of ten hours for Vacation Bible School @ (regular hourly wage)/hour, if requested by Faith Formation Committee." Carried.

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/ Brenda Gruetzner "That the positions of Music Director, Accompanist, Organist, Sunday School Coordinator, and Youth Coordinator receive a 1.4% Cost of Living increase, effective January 1, 2018." Carried.

A question was raised as to why the custodian's contract is different from other employees.

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Ila Wilms "That Rhonda Lotochinski be retained under a permanent contract as Office Manager for 2 days per week, effective January 1, 2018" Carried.

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/ Barbara Foster "That Patti McCleary be retained under a permanent contract as Office Manager for 4 days per week, effective January 1, 2018." Carried.

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/ Ila Wilms “That the hourly wage for the Office Managers’ position be increased to \$21.00 per hour effective January 1, 2018.” Carried.

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Sharyn Erne “That Annette’s request for vacation time for April 2 – 8th, 2018 be approved.” Carried.

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Linda Stumpf “That Annette’s request for continuing education on February 3 – 8th, and May 7 – 13th, 2018 be approved.” Carried.

d) Stewardship:

Motion: Brian McConkey/Maxine Olmsted “That the budget be adopted as revised.” Carried.

Motion: Brian McConkey/Maxine Olmsted “At the end of the year any available interest from the Planned Giving Fund investments exceeding \$5000 be moved into the chequing account.” Defeated.

Council felt that the affected committees should be reminded of the parameters of the Planned Giving Policy. See Appendix XXI of the First United Church Policy and Procedures Manual.

e) Membership and Pastoral Care:

Motion: Sharyn Erne/ Ila Wilms “That Council approve the baptism of Pat Dyck Bunkosky and that she be accepted as a full member of the First United Church by affirmation on February 25, 2018.” Carried.

Wendell Anderson donated his time and the materials to build the name tags box. A Thank You card will be sent to him on behalf of the congregation.

f) Nominations: As the committee has been unable to fill the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of Council, a rotating Chair is recommended.

Motion: Brian McConkey/Sharyn Erne “That the position of Chair of Council rotates on a monthly basis among the Council members.” Carried.

Adele Heise volunteered to act as Chair of Council from March 4 – March 22.

13. New business

a) **Annual Meeting on March 4.** Peggy Worrell will chair.

b) **Staff and Council Retreat on March 17th.** Peggy is looking for volunteers to plan the day.

14. Opening devotion (Holy Manner #6) and closing prayer for February 27 – Member-at-large: Jessie Hanna

15. Group Norms – Ila Wilms

16. **Reminder of action items** – Ila Wilms
17. **Church Council meeting evaluation**
18. **The meeting was declared closed at 9:12**
19. **Closing prayer** – Linda Stumpf

Upcoming Executive Meeting: **Tuesday February 27, 2018, 5:15 pm**

Upcoming Church Council Meeting: **Thursday March 1, 2018, 7:00 – 9:00 pm**