

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
Leadership Team (Keepers of the Vision)
Aug 31, 2023 7:00 pm

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:

Peggy Worrell, Chairperson
Annette Taylor, Minister
Colleen MacBean, Member-at-Large (by Zoom)
Kimberly Bilanski, Member-at-Large
Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary
Kevin Hanna, Member-at-Large (by Zoom)
Marlene Reidle, Member-at-Large (by Zoom)

Peggy Worrell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

Check In

Opening devotion: Colleen MacBean

Moment of inspiration – Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice

Holy Manner #4 – Strive for equal opportunity and encouragement of participation of all

1. The Agenda was approved by consensus
2. Approval of the June 22, 2023 Leadership Team minutes by consensus
3. Volunteers needed:
 - Reminder of Action Items: Colleen MacBean
 - Monitor our responsibility as Keepers of the Vision: Kimberley Bilanski
 - Verbal report to the congregation on Sept 1: Peggy Worrell
4. Business Arising
 - a) Camera and microphone for hybrid meetings. Revisited at the end of the meeting.
Motion: Kevin Hanna/Marlene Reidle
That we purchase the camera and microphone to use for future Hybrid meetings, for the cost of \$256. Budget line 5005. Carried.
 - b) Back-up emergency plan for boilers from Building & Property Committee – table until Sept meeting
 - c) Budget Review Process
 - Responses from Committees:
 - Outreach: The Outreach committee was pleased with the results of the survey on the church's future and found that no action needed to be taken as the majority of the respondents were in favour of continuing support for the M&S fund, Camp Shagabec and St. Andrew's College.
 - Faith Formation: Deb Fletcher has volunteered to fill the position of Sunday School Coordinator. This will result in an annual saving of \$8000.

Action item: Peggy will send a Thank You card to Deb Fletcher on behalf of the Leadership team.

- Worship & Music Committee is open to discontinuing radio broadcasts. It was decided that the Leadership Team would refrain from taking any action until we hear from the Membership & Pastoral Care Committee.
- Report results to congregation, with Leadership Team action plan: A summary of the 20-page report, "Results of Budget Review Process" (May 25, 2023) will be prepared, noting actions already taken, for the Leadership Team to review at Sept. meeting. After the summary is shared with the congregation, a plan will be made for a Circle Conversation and/or Congregational meeting.

Action item: Peggy & Charles will summarize the budget review process and present to the September 28 Leadership Team meeting

d) Info only: Conversations in Abbey, Shaunavon, Lafleche re ministry in Southwest Saskatchewan-Annette spoke with Tracy Murton. Note link to information about process used, Appreciative Inquiry:

<https://organizingengagement.org/models/appreciative-inquiry/>

5. Reports

- a) Minister's Report
- b) Committee Reports received: Outreach, worship & Music, Stewardship, House Group Coordinator, Faith Formation

Business arising from reports

Worship & Music Committee recommends a new list of Funeral Officiants; Ray Friesen, Karen Messer, Linda Stumpf, James Worrell, Elaine Little

Motion: Kevin Hanna/Colleen MacBean

That the Worship & Music Committee be authorized to approve funeral officiants. Carried

Faith Formation reports that an Art Journaling workshop will be presented by Eva Stanley on Oct. 15.

6. Establishing an Autonomous Indigenous National Organization

Category 3 Remit (Attached)

- Link to Study Guide: <https://generalcouncil44.ca/sites/default/files/2023-03/gc44-remit-1-study-guide-march-2023.pdf>
- Discuss in preparation for vote in Sept. Questions were asked. These can be answered by the Regional Council or at remits@united-church.ca

Action item: Annette and Peggy will formulate questions regarding the Remit to send to the Regional Council and report back to the Leadership Team at the Sept 28 meeting.

7. Visioning

- a) Mission Statement, Core Values, & Identity Statement – Proposed revisions from Kevin and Colleen were discussed. This is the statement as amended:

*We at First United Church, guided by the Spirit,
seek to be an affirming, progressive community of faith.*

Values

- * *Compassionate outreach*
- * *Spiritual growth*
- * *Diversity*
- * *Social justice*
- * *Care for the Earth*

Action item: Pat will circulate the draft mission statement to the committees and ask them to respond to the leadership team before our meeting on Oct 26.

Action item: Kevin Hanna & Colleen MacBean will facilitate a circle conversation on Sunday, Oct. 1 to discuss the changes to the mission Statement, Core Values & Identity Statement.

Action item: Peggy will prepare an announcement for the congregation re the mission statement

- b) Partnerships with the community/ Neighbourhood Round Table – An interagency group meets every 2 months. First United Church would be welcome to attend these meetings.

Action item: Kimberly will email information on Swift Link and future meeting dates for the Interagency Group to the Leadership Team

- c) Info only: “Making Your Church Building a Community Asset” 7-hour course: Annette, Pat, Colleen, Rhonda, Patti, Peggy will participate. Module 1 will be on Sept 17, Module 2 on Oct 4.

- d) Buy house next door. \$160,000. Why?
<https://www.royallepage.ca/en/property/saskatchewan/swift-current/235-3rd-avenue-ne/20034508/mlssk935474/>

- I. Demolish the property. Drill for possible geothermal source and use it to heat the church
 - II. Use the current house as a rental property to generate income
 - III. Flexibility for the future as we consider options for the church property
- These suggestions will be forwarded to the Stewardship and Building & Property Committees for consideration

Action item: Peggy will request the Building & Property and Stewardship committees to consider purchase of the adjacent house.

- e) Part II of Budget Review Process – Long term planning
Begin with developing the new Mission Statement, taking the Making Your Church Building a Community Asset, Partnership with the community
- 8. Information only: Policy Manual updates have been received from Worship & Music, Nominations, Stewardship, Outreach, Faith Formation. Rhonda Lotochinski has started updating the Policy Manual to reflect the new structure.
- 9. Group Norms for Upholding Decisions - Annette
- 10. Volunteer for Opening Devotion and Closing Prayer – Sept 28 – Kimberley Bilanski
- 11. Reminder of Action items – Colleen MacBean
- 12. Our responsibility as Keepers of the Vision – Kimberly Bilanski
- 13. Closing devotion: Colleen MacBean
- 14. Meeting adjourned at 9:08

Next Leadership Team Meetings – Thursday Sept 28 at 7pm - Hybrid
Subsequent meetings: Thursday, Oct. 26, Thursday, Nov. 30
Opening Devotion and closing prayer for Sept 28 – Kimberley Bilanski

Peggy Worrell, Chair

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary