

Present: Annette Taylor, Kimberly Bilanski, Charles Lotochinski, Dave Zacharias, Peggy Worrell

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm

Check-in

Moment of Inspiration - Kempt Shore church in Nova Scotia now housing for seniors

<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/video/9.6572509> (5 min video)

Holy Manners Preamble - Our Holy Manners create an environment where we are empowered to take risks, to think creatively, to be fully ourselves, knowing that we are valued, loved and upheld in community.

Holy Manner #3 - Affirm people's right to hold and express differing opinions, assume best intentions, listen carefully to each other, without interrupting;

1. Approval of the agenda by consensus.
2. Approval of the Oct. 24 Leadership Team minutes by consensus.
3. Business Arising
  - a) Ongoing conversations with St. Olaf's Lutheran Church - Will someone from our congregation visit St. Olaf's to invite them to Melodies of Christmas?
  - b) "Donors as Disciples" by Leslie Sinclair, Sept. issue of *Broadview* - Some Sundays, Minute for Mission will be replaced by informing the congregation of our outreach and the use of our building by community organizations. Dec 1 - Fran Jackson: Prayer Group. Annette will talk to other groups about making presentations on future Sundays.
  - c) Christmas Rooms - It was decided that the unsold Christmas items do not need to be removed until the two offices are rented or needed for another purpose. Idea from Donna Barber: "Christmas in June ½ price sale".
  - d) Letter from Norma Hain - Norma's letter included brochures and worship services from other United churches, which was appreciated. Worship material will be shared with the Worship & Music Committee. Discussion led to the idea of creating brochures. 1) History of our church - to be discussed at a future date. 2) Current info - Stewardship Committee will plan for a brochure after our new minister arrives.
  - e) Advertising - Kimberly will talk to Rhonda about creating a small Melodies of Christmas invitation to give to shoppers in the 3rd Ave. Boutique and Garage Sale rooms.
4. Reports
  - a) Minister's Report - Annette acknowledged the additional work being done by the Leadership Team as we prepare to call a new minister. She thanked Peggy Worrell and Colleen MacBean for their work on the Living Faith Story and the Minister's Position Description.
  - b) Committee Reports
    - Oct. 31 Stewardship Financial Statement
  - c) Business arising from reports - none
  - d) MOTION: Kimberly/Charles: That the reports be accepted. Carried.

## 5. Expanding Use of our Building and Rental Revenue

- Alcohol policy - Nov 24, 2005 Church Council motion: "That First United Church continue with its tradition of not having alcohol on church property." In response to the suggestion at the Nov. 3 Circle Conversation, should we revisit our No Alcohol policy to increase potential rental revenue? Annette will ask other churches. Kimberly will research Liquor Licence rules. Decision whether to consult the congregation at the 2025 AGM tabled to Jan. 2025.

## 6. VISIONING

### a) Nov. 3 Circle Conversation

- Presenter: Brenda Gruetzner; Facilitator: Peggy; Recorder: Pat Dyck Bunkosky
- 28 attended
- Handout (attached)
- Notes (emailed to Leadership Team on Nov. 5)

Option #1 - Status quo. Note 10-year projections: Stewardship and Building & Property

Option #2 - Stay in our building and make significant changes. Increase revenue, including leasing parts of the building. Decrease expenses, including staff.

Option #3 - Sell our building and move - Rent or build

### b) A second Circle Conversation re. Sustainability is not being planned at this time.

### c) Meeting with Jordan Cantwell, United Church of Canada Growth Animator, Nov. 20

- Meeting Summary (attached)
- Next steps:
  - Ask United Property Resource Commission about engaging with us to look at possibilities for our church property (may include creating a non-profit corporation that runs the building and makes them eligible for grants. - Annette
  - Analyze the Refugee Sponsorship Project as a case example of how to involve people from outside of our church in an outreach project - Peggy
  - Leasing part of the building - At the 2025 AGM, the congregation will be asked for approval to proceed if there is a prospective lessee.
- Future possibilities:
  - Approach the City of Swift Current
  - Have conversations with organizations with whom we already have partnerships (e.g. CMHA, SK Abilities, Scouts, Guides, SW Pride, Salvation Army, SW Crisis Services, Family Resource Centre, AA) about ways in which we might undertake joint projects or consider new ideas that could generate revenue.
  - Might service clubs want to partner with us so we can continue to provide space to groups such as Girl Guides free of charge?
  - Explore relationships with new partners. (e.g. Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls, Truth & Reconciliation Committee of Swift Current & District, Islamic Centre, Swift Current Housing Authority, Lii

Bufloo Metis Local, Chinook Library, service clubs and lodges, Islamic Centre)

7. Policy & Procedures Manual - tabled

8. 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada

- April 27, 2025 tentative date
- Round Hill Pewter commemorative ornaments - Kimberly will order
- Friends of the United Church Foundation questions: 1. Are we interested in encouraging our congregation to give to an endowment that would then be sent to the Foundation for safe-keeping? 2. Do we want to be a hub location for a service on June 1st? MOTION: Charles/Kim: That we decline the request to become a hub. Carried

9. New minister

- a) Our Living Faith Story submitted to Tracy Murton, Living Skies Region, & affirmed by the Pastoral Relations Commission on Nov. 15
- b) Position Description (Attached) - Approved by consensus. Peggy will submit to Tracy Murton
- c) Financial documents - Stewardship will prepare and email to Leadership Team before submitting to Tracy Murton.

Next steps:

- Above 3 documents to be reviewed by the Living Skies Region Pastoral Relations Commission on Dec. 5 or 12 and hopefully approved.
  - Make any revisions, if needed.
  - Congregational meeting to approve 3 documents - Tentative date: January 19  
Peggy will write notice for bulletin. To be announced on Sun. Jan. 5 & Jan. 12.
  - Final approval by Pastoral Relations Commission
- d) Search Team - Names of prospective members have been recommended.

10. Office Manager

- Patti's retirement will be effective Feb. 27
- Rhonda - When a Ministry & Personnel Committee recommendation is received, a special Leadership Team meeting (via Zoom) will be called to approve it. Budget implications?

11. Casual Office Manager

- When a Ministry & Personnel Committee recommendation is received, a special Leadership Team meeting (via Zoom) will be called to approve it.
- Could we add Secretary, Leadership Team to job description? 3 hrs/month? Plus secretary for AGM & Congregational meetings - to be discussed.
- Budget implications?

12. Nominations - Eileen Elkington

Leadership Team Terms of Office

Chairperson: Peggy Worrell - 2/3 - will continue

Vice Chairperson: Vacant

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Charles Lotochinski - 3/3 - will continue

Member-at-Large: Kevin Hanna - 2/3 - will not continue

Member-at-Large: Colleen MacBean - 2/3 - will continue

Member-at-Large: Kim Bilanski - 2/3- will continue

Member-at-Large: Dave Zacharias - 1/3- will continue

13. Organist

- Patti McCleary's retirement will be effective Feb. 27. However, she will continue until a replacement is hired. Worship & Music Committee has been asked to draft a position description

14. Pianist

- Mary Anderson has asked for another pianist to be hired to replace her when she is unavailable. Worship & Music Committee has been asked to draft a position description

15. Christmas Social for Leadership Team - Thurs. Dec. 12, 6:00 pm - 700 - 5th Ave SW

16. Reminder of action items - Charles

18. Our responsibility as Keepers of the Vision - Kimberly

Peggy will give a verbal report to the congregation on Dec. 1 and write an announcement for the bulletin.

Closing Prayer - Annette

**Next meeting: Thursday Jan. 30, 7:00 - 9:00 pm (hybrid)**

Annette will prepare an Opening Devotion & Closing Prayer

Please let Peggy know if you expect to be absent - to ensure we have a quorum

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm

Parking lot - Ideas to be discussed in future

- Create a brochure about the history of our church. Why? Target audience?
- Communications person

/P. Worrell