

First United Church

“A Celebration of 2025 and a Celebration of Volunteers”: 2026 AGM

Sunday, March 15, 2026

*We, at First United Church, guided by the Spirit
are striving to be an open and diverse community of faith.
Through word and action, we pursue the values of
spiritual growth, compassionate outreach, social justice and care of the earth.*

Call to order and Welcome - Commenced Noon

1. Opening prayer - Rev. Sheila Deforest
2. Lighting of the Christ candle - Sharyn Ernie
3. “A Song Must Rise” - *More Voices* #142 - group singing – Accompanist Mary Anderson
4. Our Mission Statement (in unison)

Peggy announced we have met quorum

5. Election of the Chair and Secretary for the meeting.

Motion: “That Peggy Worrell act as Chair for the meeting and Brenda Gruetzner as Secretary.” Moved Charles Lotochinski, Seconded Dave Zacharias. Carried.

6. Request for any additional items to be added to the agenda.

7. Adoption of agenda.

Motion “That the agenda be adopted as presented/amended” Moved Sharyn Ernie, Seconded Rhonda Lotochinski. Carried.

8. Extending full voting privileges to adherents for the purpose of this meeting.

Motion “That we grant full voting privileges to adherents for the purpose of this meeting as allowed in *The Manual, 2026 (B.3.7.2)*” Moved Pat Bunkosky, Seconded Donna Barber. Carried.

9. Approval of minutes of the March 9, 2025 Annual General Meeting.

Motion “That we approve the minutes from the March 9, 2025 Annual General Meeting as presented/amended” Moved Jean Pearson, Seconded Alma Engel. Carried.

10. Any business arising from the minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting. - None

11. Report from Rev. Sheila Deforest, Living Skies representative

Sheila had nothing to add to her written report and no questions from the floor.

12. Report from the Chair of the Leadership Team, Peggy Worrell.

Peggy had nothing to add to her written report and no questions from the floor.

13. Report from Search Team - New minister, Rev. Kelly Osgood, beginning May 25.

Eileen Elkington and Dan Olmsted were introduced on behalf of the committee. They wanted to recognize that Anne Wiebe was not present. There was one question about if Kelly had found accommodations. She will rent and purchase later.

14. Reports from the Staff, Committees, and Interest Groups, excluding the Nominations report. – No questions from the floor.

Motion “That we approve all Staff, Committee and Interest Group Reports as presented” Moved Sharyn Ernie, Seconded Diane Sarson. Carried.

15. Election of 2026 Leadership Team, Committee members, and House Group Coordinator:

a. Nominations Report: Eileen Elkington and Donna Barber presented.

Eileen thanked all who filled positions and volunteered. She noted the gaps, leadership chair and vice-chair and also other committees that don't have a chair.

b. Request for nominations from the floor. If there are nominations from the floor and there are multiple nominations for the same position, then an election will be required. – No nominations from the floor

Motion “That we accept the Nominations Report as presented” Moved Dave Zacharias, Seconded Dan Olmsted. Carried.

16. Appointment of Trustees: Eileen Elkington

Motion “That we appoint the Trustees as presented.” Moved Donna Barber, Seconded Rhonda Lotochinski.

17. Celebrating volunteers – Kim Bilanski and Elynn Bilanski presented a token and volunteers were invited to take a gift from the table.

18. “Your Life at First United Church”- Small group activity (page 3 of this agenda)

19. Introduce Stewardship Committee – Present were Charles Lotochinski, Brenda Gruetzner, and Eileen Elkington. Absent Scott Anderson and Karen Bender.

20. Stewardship Presentation – Charles Lotochinski PowerPoint presentation

a. Approval of 2025 Financial Statements.

Motion “We approve the 2025 Financial Statements as presented” Moved Charles Lotochinski, Seconded Fran Jackson. Carried.

b. Revised 10-year projection.

c. Approval of 2026 General Budget.

Motion “We approve the 2026 General Budget as presented” Moved Charles Lotochinski, Seconded Dam Olmsted. Carried.

d. Approval of 2026 Mission and Service Budget.

Motion “We approve the 2026 Mission and Service Budget as presented” Moved Charles Lotochinski, Seconded Norma Hain. Carried.

e. Appointment of reviewers for 2026 finances.

Motion “That the Stewardship Committee will appoint reviewers for the 2026 finances” Moved Charles Lotochinski, Seconded Jean Pearson. Carried.

21. Motions from the Outreach Committee

Donations from the Planned Giving Fund as recommended by the Outreach Committee.

a. **Motion: “The Outreach Committee’s goal for fundraising for Mission and Service for 2026 will be \$20,000 with no more than \$5,000 coming from Planned Giving Fund to reach the goal.”** For information purposes: In 2025, \$3101.84 was provided from the Planned Giving Fund to meet our objective. Moved Fran Jackson, Seconded Rhonda Lotochinski. Carried.

b. **Motion: “The Outreach Committee would raise money for St. Andrew’s by inviting a speaker to come to a special service to explain their needs and then collecting donations from the congregation. The Planned Giving Account would supplement the amount for a total of \$3,000 in 2026”** For information purposes: In 2025, \$2688 was required from the Planned Giving Fund to meet our objective. Moved Fran Jackson, Seconded Judy Killaby. Carried.

c. **Motion: “The Outreach Committee would raise money for Camp Shagabec by collecting donations at Camping Sunday service and then the Planned Giving Account would supplement the amount for a total of \$5,000 in 2026.** For information purposes: In 2025, \$1750 was provided from the Planned Giving Fund to meet our objective. Moved Fran Jackson, Seconded Deb Fletcher. Carried.

Charles spoke to the floor, clarifying that there have been concerns in the past with the use of Planned Giving Funds for these donations. That fund is actually higher this year than last year which he wanted the floor to know. So the use of these funds is not draining that account.

22. Staff Appreciation – Linda Thompson, from Ministry and Personnel presented flowers to Rhonda Lotochinski and Mary Anderson. Additional flowers were left in the office for Paulene Lansang, James McLauchlan, and Michael Orola.

Peggy Worrell thanked Rhonda Lotochinski for preparation of this annual report.

23. “First United Church 100th Anniversary Stories” - Copies available to take home

24. Reminder: Spring Ham Supper & “Sowing Seeds of Faith” Silent Auction April 12 – We are looking for auction items.

25. “I’m Gonna Live So God Can use Me”, *Voices United #575*

Kim Bilanski thanked Peggy Worrell for her service as Chair of Leadership and made a presentation.

26. Closing Prayer - Rev. Sheila Deforest

27. Adjournment of meeting. – 1:20pm

Your Life at First United Church (Small group activity)

1. Why did you join First United Church or begin attending?

2. How are you involved other than attending church on Sunday mornings?

3. What has been the best part?

4. The Future: What would you like our church to do to fulfill our ministry?

(Write down answers to Question #4 and hand in, for the Leadership Team.)

Peggy Worrell, Chair of Leadership

Brenda Gruetzner, Secretary

Appendix 1

24 Members/ 14 Adherents in attendance

1. Sharyn Erne
2. Wally Pearson
3. Mary Anderson
4. Elma Engel
5. Donna Saunders
6. Donna Barber
7. Jean Pearson
8. Nellie Scherger
9. Pat Dyck Bunkosky
10. Dianne Hymers
11. Norma Hain
12. Shirley Dyck
13. Wally Derkach
14. Dwight Carter
15. Melanie Davis
16. Betty Robertson
17. Karen Messer
18. Eileen Elkington
19. Marg Wiebe
20. Diane Minogue
21. Brenda Gruetzner
22. Jim Fletcher
23. Judy Corbett
24. Shirley Terlson
25. Kim Bilanski
26. Elynn Bilanski
27. Jim Declare
28. Charles Lotochinski
29. Rhonda Lotochinski
30. Maxine Olmsted
31. Harold Lapuz
32. Adler Irwin
33. Diane Sarson
34. Dan Olmsted
35. Linda Thompson
36. Fran Jackson
37. Peggy Worrell
38. Judy Killaby