



TO: First-St. Andrew's United Church Council

FROM: Ad Hoc Planning Committee

DATE: May 28, 2019

"We will be giving thought to further opportunities to make FSA more inviting to others – opportunities to use and adapt our physical space in new and different ways – ways that could generate additional income and expand our church community in rich and diverse ways."

From the 2019 AGM of First-St. Andrew's United Church

The Planning Committee last met on May 2, 2019 and the next meeting will be on May 30, 2019.

Faith Development

- Rev Michelle reported on the Festival of Homiletics event that will be webcast in the Chapel
 - Labyrinth meditation group will be meeting at the church during July and August
 - A Devatree student has offered yoga and music following a kirtan or kirtana style of worship
- From Wikipedia: Kirtan or Kirtana** ([Sanskrit](#): कीर्तन; [IAST](#): *Kīrtana*) is a [Sanskrit](#) word that means "narrating, [reciting](#), telling, describing" of an idea or story.^{[1][2]} It also refers to a genre of religious performance arts, connoting a musical form of narration or shared recitation, particularly of spiritual or religious ideas.^[1]
- Michelle asked the committee about FSA partnering with Indwell as they have a housing complex opening up near FSA – the Committee supported reaching out and participating as good neighbours

Service and Social Action

- The committee continues to investigate opportunities to contribute to affordable, supportive housing in the City of London. Most recently members have been attending the open sessions being held by the City this month as they review the cities' Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan – it is being called Housing Stability For All. They will receive input until the end of June. Bob Swartman is leading up this effort.
- Michelle informed the committee that Mission Services has had to cut services and beds due to funding cuts.

The Arts Committee

- Arts after Five led by a robust committee with Merran Neville at the helm continues to attract people from the arts community – the last session – held on April 23rd highlighted dance. **Upcoming events include:**
 - **Sunday, June 2 @ 2:30pm - Writers' Open Mic** at Mykonos (Dr. Joan Clayton, Coordinator)
 - **June 28-30, 2019 - London Dance Festival. Details** at <http://londondancefestival.ca/2019-london-dance-festival> (from Alissa Cassidy)

The Eco-Meditation garden – is nearing completion with the official opening to take place on Sunday June 23, 2019. Barrie Evans continues to lead this excellent initiative.

George Jolink has agreed to attend the May 30th meeting as the Committee begins to look at opportunities to “repurpose” portions to FSA to expand what we can offer and expand opportunities for revenue generation.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve

Steve Elson, Chair
Ad Hoc Planning Committee