



**First-St. Andrew's United Church
COUNCIL MEETING
April 18, 2023
7:00 pm
Zoom Video Conferencing**

Present: Linda Badke, Paul Cooper, Barb Dalrymple, Steve Elson, Glenna Hall, Jan Hendry, Kerry Hill, George Jolink, Laurel Kenney, The Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence, Merran Neville, Jo Ann Silcox, David Wardlaw, Katherine Wonfor, Laura Wood

Regrets: Allyson Watson, Jackie Williams

The regular meeting of Council was called to order at 7:00 pm by David Wardlaw, Chair. A quorum was present.

1.0 Welcome: David Wardlaw welcomed Council to the April meeting.

2.0 Invocation: Pastor Joshua opened the meeting with prayer.

3.0 Acknowledgement of the traditional territory on which we are meeting -- Pastor Joshua

4.0 Reflection -- David Wardlaw

David Wardlaw reflected on the energy of the Sunday services. The excellent quality of the preaching, music and children's program was noted. David thanked all who participated in the services. David is pleased to see new faces in the congregation.

5.0 Review and Approval of Agenda

The following addition was requested to the circulated Agenda:
12A Report from the Shared Youth and Young Adult Ministry

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Agenda of Tuesday, April 18, 2023 be approved with the above addition.

MOVED: By George Jolink, seconded by Jo Ann Silcox. MOTION CARRIED.

6.0 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

7.0 Approval of Minutes

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2023 be approved.

MOVED: By Merran Neville, seconded by Barb Dalrymple. MOTION CARRIED.

8.0 Correspondence

No correspondence was brought to the attention of Council.

9.0 Staff Report – Joshua Lawrence

A Pastor's Report was circulated.

Pastor Joshua has been meeting with Chris Fischer, Music Director, to discuss programming.

Three young people will be confirmed during the April 30, 2023 service.

April 23 is new members Sunday. Glenna Hall reported that Membership and Nurture has put together gift bags for the new members. Please welcome the new members at Coffee and Conversation. Short biographies will be published in the next issue of Tidings.

Pastor Joshua reported that the staff is working together with energy and joy as they support each other in their work.

10.0 Items for Decision Making by Council

10A Report from the Search Committee for a Pastoral Care Minister – Kerry Hill

A memo was received from the Search Committee for a part-time Pastoral Care Minister.

A candidate has been selected and the Search Committee requests a Congregational Meeting be called for Sunday, May 7, 2023 to receive the report from the Search Committee and approve the call of the candidate.

MOTION: That First-St. Andrew's United Church Council accepts the report of the Search Committee for a part-time Pastoral Care Minister and that a Congregational Meeting be called for Sunday, May 7, 2023.

MOVED: By Paul Cooper, seconded by George Jolink. MOTION CARRIED.

David Wardlaw will send notice of the congregational meeting to Kathryn Skelly and Jim Silcox.

11.0 Reports and Topics for Discussion by Council

11A Finance Update – Laura Wood

A Finance Report at March 31, 2023 was circulated.

Laura Wood reported that 2023 envelope and PAR givings are 16% behind 2022.

An analysis of year-to-date givings has been completed. The decrease in givings is mainly due to five members who are no longer active.

The Finance Committee is concerned with the cash flow position. There is little buffer in the operating account for unexpected expenses. The gap between revenue and expenses must be addressed immediately. Finance has requested that remaining 2022 budgeted support from the Trust Funds be paid to the operating account.

Laura Wood requested that committee chairs be transparent with their committee members regarding FSA's financial situation and ask them to consider what they can do to help.

12.0 Reports and Topics for the Information of Council

12A Youth and Young Adult Ministry Update – Marilyn Arthur

A report from Marilyn Arthur, Minister of Youth and Young Adults, was circulated to Council.

12B Campaign for Lent – Steve Elson

Steve Elson and Jim Silcox designed a campaign for Lent:
LENT: an opportunity to say thanks and to give

Steve Elson reported to Council on the campaign.

- The campaign was well received. Many thank you messages were submitted. Jim Silcox is creating a collage of phrases from the messages which will be published in Tidings.
- Testimonials were offered at the Sunday services. Many thanks to those who shared how FSA impacts their lives.
- An Easter appeal envelope was distributed in the Sunday bulletin.

Steve Elson is preparing a brochure on ways to give to FSA. The brochure will focus on on-line, PAR and e-transfers. The brochures will be available in the pews and the information posted to the FSA website.

The Sunday Greetings Team Co-ordinator will be asked to have greeters available with an offering plate at the Narthex and Atrium doors after Sunday services. The Worship Committee has been asked to consider if passing the plate should be re-introduced during the Sunday service.

Pastor Joshua suggested a video showing a member of the congregation giving words of welcome and ways to give be produced and shown Sunday mornings and as part of the live stream.

12C Steering Group for Revenue Generation, Fundraising and Cost Savings – David Wardlaw

David Wardlaw reported that he is putting together a steering group to look at the FSA financial situation. The group will explore givings, fundraising, rentals, and grants as well as cost savings. The steering group will report to Council.

Council suggested that our partners (Meals on Wheels, El Sistema) may have access to grants not available to religious organizations. The grants could be used for necessary capital improvements.

George Jolink reported that the United Church of Canada has a granting program for projects that lower a congregation's carbon footprint, but the capital costs must be paid by the congregation before grant money can be received.

13.0 Benediction

Barb Dalrymple closed the meeting with prayer.

The April 18, 2023 Meeting of Council was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

David Wardlaw, Chair

Katherine Wonfor, Secretary