

First Baptist Church Regina
November Regular Business Meeting
November 13, 2022

1. Call to order
2. First Baptist Covenant and prayer
3. Consent agenda:
 1. Motion to approve the agenda
 2. Motion to approve Minutes of AGM of March 27, 2002
 3. Motion to approve Minutes of AGM of August 14, 2002
 4. Motion to approve WSO Accounting as the financial auditor for 2022
4. Motion to recommend Cheryl Johnston for licensing with the CBWC: "We, the congregation of First Baptist Church Regina request that the Regional Advisory Group and Ministerial Credentials Committee of the CBWC recognize Cheryl Johnston as a Credentialed Minister."
5. Report of Board Chair
6. Report of Lead Pastor
7. Treasurer's report
8. 2023 Budget
9. 2023 Board nominations
 1. Returning: Brenda Ziolkowski, Roger Bellows, Heather Russell-MacLean, Adija Pusi, Derrick Bellows, and Kevin Rich (treasurer).
 2. Nominees for 2023. Motion to appoint the nominees to First Baptist Church Regina Board.
10. Motion to adjourn

A Covenant of Fellowship

First Baptist Church, Regina, Saskatchewan

We, the members of First Baptist Church, Regina, covenant together to walk with Christ and each other in the fellowship of holy love, to gather together regularly for united worship, to search the Scriptures for understanding of the Christian way of life, to serve God and each other in love and humility.

We will recognize the worth of each individual within our community, regardless of age or circumstances, recognizing that we are all precious in God's sight.

We will uphold each other in prayer and will offer kindness, forgiveness, and mercy to each other as Christ has offered to us. We will give cheerfully of our time, talents and finances so that God's work would prosper in this place.

We will recognize Christ's presence in every aspect of our lives and will seek to honour Him in all that we say and do – at church, in our homes, and at our places of employment. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will seek to follow Christ throughout our lives.

First Baptist Church Regina
Special Meeting
August 14, 2022
Minutes

A brief meeting of the Congregation of First Baptist Church was called by Board Chair Ron Phillips and Acting Lead Minister Kayely Rich to report on the progress of the committee leading the search for a Children's and Families Minister. Cheryl Johnston, a member of our congregation, long active in the Children's and Youth Ministry programs, and more than well qualified, was presented as the successful candidate.

A MOTION was put forward:

"We, the congregation of First Baptist Church, Regina, affirm the calling of Cheryl Johnston as Pastor of Children and Families Ministries.."

MOVED: Brenda Ziolkowski/Carmen Orthner CARRIED

First Baptist Church
Annual General Meeting
March 27, 2022
MEETING MINUTES

1. Meeting Called to Order 12:19 – Ron Phillips
2. Church Covenant and Prayer – Joel Russell-McLean
3. Consent Agenda – Ron Phillips
 - a. **MOTION** to approve today's meeting agenda
 - b. 2021 Congregational Meeting Minutes – MOTION to approve November 21, 2021 Congregational Meeting Minutes
Moved: Bryden Yeo; Seconded: John Hillmer. Carried.
4. Report of Chair of Diaconate (verbal highlights) – Ron Phillips
Highlights:
 - We need to learn to connect in fresh ways to our culture
 - We need to fill out pastoral staff and rebuild our ministry capacity after Covid
 - Thanks to the Board (including Collin Carbno, whose 6-year term ended in 2021)
 - Thanks to Joel, who has led the church through Covid and pastoral changes
5. Treasurer's Report (written & verbal highlights) – Kevin Rich
Highlights:
 - Financial Administration – S. Pippin CPA Professional Corporation
 - Operating surplus - \$60,100
 - Operating Bank Account - \$233,800
 - Organ Fund Loan - \$182,000
 - Organ Fund - \$84,200
 - Building Fund - \$28,500
 - Legacy Fund (DULF) - \$17,000
 - Benevolent Fund - \$3,000
 - 2021 Actuals
 - Operating Revenue - \$506,700
 - Operating Expenses - \$446,400
 - 2022 Budget
 - Approved Budget - \$447,100
 - Estimated Expenses - \$443,874
 - As of February 28, 2022
 - Budget - \$74,500
 - Expenses - \$59,700
 - Revenue - \$73,100

- Covid didn't have a significant impact on giving in 2021
- Expenses were slightly over budget in 2021
- CEBA: FBC applied for and received \$40,000 (only \$30,000 must be repaid).
 - Originally to be repaid at the end of 2022.
 - In January 2022, the Government of Canada extended the deadline to 2023.
 - The Board has not yet decided whether to pay it back by the end of 2022 or the end of 2023.
 - Can potentially be repaid from money in the organ fund (would owe another \$30,000 to the organ fund).
- Loan Repayment Plan
 - CBWC foundation loan was paid off in 2020
 - Organ Fund Loan of \$215,00 @ 2%
 - Currently paying back at \$1,000/month
 - Saves over \$3,600 in interest
 - Plan to pay off in 2030

*Numbers have been rounded for readability

- a. **MOTION** to receive 2021 audited report
Moved: Kevin Rich; Seconded: Roger Bellows. Carried.

6. Children's Ministry Report – Kayely Rich

Highlights:

- 2021 began online, worked for some but not others (only 30 allowed in the building)
- Activities have slowly resumed since September 2021
- Not uncommon for all ages to be grouped together due to numbers. This worked well.
- Over the past few weeks, all 3 groups have been running (Nursery, Godly Play, Oasis).
 - Finding volunteers continues to be a challenge: some people are involved in the technology required for livestreaming, others are in choir.
- 2021: Video marriage course
 - A chance to build into the marriages in our congregation.
 - Has potential as an outreach tool (not just for people in the congregation).
- 2022: Parenting courses (11 and up)
 - Small group discussion via Zoom
- Kayely has been helping with tech setup following Richard's departure. Recognizes the challenges for a joint in-person and zoom setup: significant technology involved

7. Youth Ministry Report - Chris Senger

Highlights:

- Two years of doing youth ministry in a pandemic.
- 2021: Organized outside events as much as possible throughout the summer and into fall

- Each week rotates between a fun event and spiritual formation
- Has used the Senger home as a space for kids to come
- As things opened in fall 2021, proof of vaccination was required
- Christmas 2021: activities slowed. Modelled Covid protocols on what schools were doing.

- Youth showed decreased interest in online activities after having had the chance to meet in person (possible Zoom burnout).
- In February 2021, started meeting in person again (a lot of youth are vaccinated)
- Have started planning events up to June.
- There is a hunger for relationships; wants to provide space to grow in faith.
- Demographics have changed from being nearly all boys to between 33% to 50% girls
 - There is a need female youth sponsors

8. Lead Pastor's Report – Joel Russell-McLean

Highlights:

-Music

- Have been searching for a Music Minister for the last 6 months.
 - Now have a candidate
 - No projected timeframe at this point
- Said farewell to Christa Walsh
- Said farewell to John Nelson after 35 years as music minister
- Melissa Morgan and Maria Fuller have stepped in: both are well beyond what we could have imaged or asked for.
- Mark Anderson: will continue on until choir is finished.

-Sabbatical - was planned two years ago

- Covid delayed these plans until 2022
- Will take place from the end of May to end of August.
- Joel will arrange for pastoral care, preaching, administrative work to be covered

- Completed Master of Divinity in June 2021.

- December 2021 - Louise and Barb stepped in to host free meals on Saturdays.

- Saturday chosen since no other meals being handed out.
- Churches from around the city are participating

9. Screen and Zoom Discussion – Ron Phillips

- There are pros and cons of having a screen in the sanctuary/using Zoom. The Board is wrestling with these issues.

- Pros: allows people to participate from home/away; allows those attending to see those attending from home
- Cons: affects the worship experience (can be distracting); sanctuary not designed for a screen; possibility that it encourages remoteness (can be more convenient for people to attend virtually instead of in-person); has always been a temporary measure during Covid; not aesthetically pleasing, installing a proper screen and projector could be quite expensive (is there a better use for the money?); requires someone to operate it; Zoom requires hosts (which means these people can't participate in other ways)
- Thoughts: If the screen is discontinued in the sanctuary, there's still use for it in the fellowship hall/library (mission lunches, Learning For Life). Will continue to livestream on Facebook and make sermons available on YouTube.

-Hillary: From a sound techs point of view, Zoom is high-stress (Will the person remember to put mic on? Will the sound be muffled? Will the camera have something appropriate?) Does not like having the screen up and would prefer not to spend money on a new screen.

-Enosh: In his context, the front of the church is dedicated as an altar: nothing but bible, etc. Can still have Zoom, but don't need to be a part of the service. A lot of people are able to view Facebook live.

-Norma: Not bothered by screen. Notes most people are not turning on their cameras. However, thinking ahead to next winter when it is more difficult to make it in person. Watching on Facebook or YouTube is like going to the movies: spectating is different from participating. Likes being able to see the various people who are there.

Shirley/Collin: Would prefer no screen or Zoom meetings. In favour of livestreaming (this is sufficient).

Val: Wonders if Zoom could be continued for another six months. Statistics show another Covid surge is coming. Would feel much safer joining worship from home. Agrees to getting rid of the screen.

Rosemary: Does not find the screen distracting; appreciates being able to see others participating virtually. Would like to include anyone who wants to be included.

Tiffany: Notes Zoom's value for those who may not have the mental health resources to join in person.

Annabel: Acknowledges mixed feels. Deeply appreciative by what has been gained from Zoom. Notes there are people participating from far away. The way it has affected Learning for Life has been profound.

Ron: Notes the screen can still be used in various places – just preferably not in the sanctuary.

Laureen: Was in favour of the screen at the beginning: it offered a way to connect and be together when this was not possible in person. The screen is not aesthetically pleasing. However, the idea of spending a significant amount of money on a screen/projector is difficult to process. Is in favour of being able to (virtually) participate in something that is interactive. Not in favour of just watching a YouTube video. A benefit of having a screen is being able to host guest speakers from other parts of the world.

Joel: Notes that the question today is not which format would be best. Rather, the question is “Do we value this enough to pay whatever cost? Do we value what this brings?” Notes the possibility of slideshows at funerals, combined services, videos from partners. If this has value, then can put together a committee and narrow choices. If the conclusion is that if the screen does not have value and we do not wish to pay the price, then anyone who wants to use the screen will have to find other avenues of setting it up and managing the technical aspects: It can take 30 minutes to set up and test the microphones, speakers, and projectors. Suggests that if the conclusion is that the screen does not have value, then asking staff to do these things may not be a good use of their time. If someone wants to use the screen, then volunteers will need to be found to put it up organize the tech required.

Derek: Notes that a new screen/projector is a large financial commitment. Those who want a screen need to step up with money and volunteer time. A lot of folks who are currently running the tech do not wish to do this.

Merv: Zoom provides fantastic opportunity for ministry. Eliminating the screen and Zoom minimizes outreach, community. Our church should not be defined/confined by the four walls of a building.

Klaus: Zoom is not used to expand your reach in the community: Google and Facebook are.

Val: Could we hire a Zoom technician?

Kevin: Encourages people to send in comments to board members by email.

Rob: Asks if Collin have numbers on church/Zoom attendance? Have we increased our numbers with Zoom?

Joel: Zoom been a gift to many people. A lot of people have said things about how good it was to see the people at church and other people. There is a question of outreach: if we produce a newsletter and send it out and it reaches somebody, we count it worthwhile. When we send out Zoom or a livestream, it goes out and touches somebody. If we have 100 people receiving our newsletter and 200 people watching our stream: are these the metrics we are using to measure ministry? Or are we looking for something else? Are we producing content and measuring how many people see it? Or are we aiming for something different? Is outreach simply people seeing content? Or is it something that leads to relationship/participation/activity?

Maria: Is our ministry measured by views? Or by the spirit of God moving within these walls? Notes that attending FBC has provided an idea of what it means to belong to a community.

10. New business – Rosemary Ward

-As church clerk, plans to archive inactive names.

-KLC appreciated the financial support from the missions committee.

11. Adjournment – Ron Phillips

a. MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 1:45pm

Moved: Roger Bellows