



March 1, 2015

Minute for AGM //M&S

1. Good morning everyone. I'd like to take just a few minutes to review some the developments that came out of last Sunday's annual general meeting and then finish with some M&S facts.
2. A special thanks to Denise Reid, the Sundays School and Friends for putting on the pancake brunch prior to the AGM. We were well fed and if some people were dozing off during the meeting, it wasn't all due to being bored.
3. The meeting ran for just over two hours and we covered a lot of ground, heard some important reports and passed several key motions:
 - a. we remembered the lives of 47 people who passed away in 2014, served by Kristal's ministry and care, 11 of whom were members of First United;
 - b. we passed an amendment to the First United Church Investment Policy Statement that will direct half of annual capital gains to our general account. Thank you Kendal for your leadership in that effort;
 - c. we accepted the resignations of two Trustees, Marsha Crawford & Amelia Duncan, with deepest thanks for their willingness to serve;
 - d. we approved the budget for 2015, forecasting expenditures of over \$213,000 to support the life and ministry of our church;
 - e. we approved an objective of \$20,000 for our M&S givings in 2015 and renewed our financial pledge of \$1000 to OSHaRE;
 - f. we elected new members to council and returned some veterans....Paul Crawford, Marilyn Messerschmidt, Laurel Dinsmore, Bettilyn Berglund and Jennifer Prior. Philip Cochrane was approved as Vice Chair of Council - congratulations to all;
 - g. we agreed to seek grant funding and apply to become a site for supervised ministry education in support of an 8-month internship running from September 2015 to April 2016; and,
 - h. we reviewed data and feedback from the Vision 20-20 congregational survey and set the stages for crafting of our new vision mission statement and development of a strategic plan.
4. It's always comes as a surprise to me that after a meeting packed so full of information and business, that we come away with an even longer list of things to do, work to be done to bring plans and dreams into fruition. It has ever been thus.
5. On the Mission & Service side of things, I just want to briefly offer some information that might act as a foundation for our efforts this year. In 2014, we exceeded our objective of \$20,000 and reached a total of \$20681.67. In the last five years (2010 to 2014), we have sent just shy of \$102,000 to the Mission & Service Fund to support God's work around the world. We are a generous people.
6. Thank you to all who participated in the AGM, those of you who came and gave ear to our summaries and forecasts. Thank you all for your generosity to M&S and to the life of First United.

Pat McDonough
Chair of Church Council



First United Church
435 21st Street West
Owen Sound, ON N4K 4E5
Email: office@firstunited-os.com

Web: www.firstunited-os.com
