

November 23, 2004

Minutes of the meeting of the Presbytery held at First United Church on Tuesday, October 26, 2004 at 4:00 PM, duly called and with a quorum present, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Chair.

Present:

Ministry Personnel: Deb Bowman, Philip Cable, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Terri Scallon, Mollie Williams, Christina Atkinson, Barry Morris, Sharon Copeman, Nancy Talbot, Robin Jacobson, Marianna Harris, Gordon Turner, Dan Chambers, Brian Burke, Don Collett, Tracy Murton, Bob Burrows.

Lay: Karen Duddy, Linda Gunn, Elinor Byers, Carole Kidd, Susan Henry, Pat Burns, Shawn Shenfield, Simone Carrodus, Brian Baybay, Glenys Melsom, Ray McGinnis, Susan Chambers, Karen Millard, Robin McGauley, John Bessuille, Trevor Harris, Barbara Matiru, Ivy Thomas, Sue Parker, Phyllis Cooper, Michelle Ness, Sue Lamb, Katheryn Karst, Ellen Coburn, Laurene Lewis, Syd Lewis, Karen Wootton, Kailey Savage, Jean Moore, Shiela Stanway.

Regrets:

Shelagh MacKinnon, Bruce Sanguin, Susan DuMoulin, Gabrielle McLarty, Bayani Baybay, Janice Young, Cullene Bryant, Ed Searcy, Maureen Hollins, Rob Pollock, Cheryl Black, Gloria Lawton, Sally Harris, Art Griffin, Eleanor O'Neill, Trevor Watson, Ashley Ramer, Kelly Andrews.

Guests:

Jeff Seaton, Don Seaton, Shirley Simpson, Lyle Simpson, Joan Morelli, George Millard, Audrey Hall, Doug Jameson, Maggie Watts-Hammond, Janet Cawley.

Opening:

The Chair offered a welcome and introduced the Rev. Janet Cawley who gave a presentation on Transitional Ministry. Rev. Cawley provided an introduction to Transitional Ministry, including recent trends to increased use of interims, especially in cases of long served pastorates or following times of conflict. Table group discussions led to questions and answers on areas of concern. A handout was provided describing the 12 Marks of a Healthy Congregation. Additional resources are available from Conference Office.

Worship:

Capilano United members provided leadership with Elinor Byers reading scripture (Luke 21), Rev. Deb Bowman offering the Reflection and the Capilano Girls' Choir sharing their gifts of music.

Business:

The Chair opened the business part of the meeting by offering thanks to the First United Congregation for hosting the Presbytery and providing the dinner.

Philip Cable led the court in prayer.

Guests were introduced and Karen Duddy, the new Camp Fircom Executive Director, gave a brief overview of the current situation with Outdoor Ministry and Camp Fircom. Although the Camp has significantly reduced costs, finances continue to be a concern. Recognizing that Camp Fircom is part of the Body of Christ support from congregations is encouraged, especially on Camping Sunday. Resources are available from the Camp Fircom office.

Minutes:

M/S/C by S. Shenfield/B. Matiru

That the Presbytery minutes of October 26, 2004 be adopted as circulated by email.

Minutes of the Executive meeting of November 10, 2004 were received for information with the note that the time for the Service of Covenant for Rev. Nancy Talbot at Mt. Seymour United will be 3:00 PM on January 9, 2005, not 2:30 PM.

In response to a question the Secretary confirmed that full versions of all meeting minutes would be emailed to all Presbyters. A version edited for privacy will be posted on the Presbytery website.

November 23, 2004**First United Church Congregation Presentation:**

Shirley Simpson, Chair of the Official Board of the Congregation, welcomed everyone and summarized the process leading to development of a Strategic Plan for the Congregation. Philip Cable presented the Strategic Plan using a power point system. Highlights of the plan included:

- Feeding the Soul of First
- Come Sojourn with First
- Raise Our Profile
- Buddy System/Addressing the Fear Factor
- Charity Plus
- PASS Principle (Prayer, action, support, study)
- Communication
- Geographic Evangelism/Recruitment
- Condense Mission Statement

The Plan was presented to the Presbytery for information and to the Pastoral Relations Committee for further reflection.

Education and Students:

Sharon Copeman reported that Karen Millard had completed her Discernment Process and has been recommended to Conference Interview Board for interview. Dan Chambers will be the Presbytery representative on a Discernment Process with Ken Irwin of Highlands United Church.

M/S/C by S.Copeman/D.Chambers

That Vancouver Burrard Presbytery recommend Rev.Robin Jacobson to the Conference Education and Students Committee to be interviewed for admission to the United Church of Canada from the Presbyterian Church of South Africa.

M/S/C by S.Copeman/D.Chambers

That Jeff Seaton be received as a Candidate for Ministry in the United Church of Canada by Vancouver Burrard Presbytery.

Long Range Planning:

Syd Lewis reported that the target for presentation of the report of the Inter-Presbytery Task-Force on Boundaries is December 15th. The recommendation will probably be to explore further the idea of redefining presbytery boundaries.

Faithful Public Witness:

Susan Henry reminded everyone of the Vigils for the Silenced to be held noon hours during the first week of Advent.

Congregational Relations:

Tracy Murton announced that Thursday evening, January 27th will be the training event for visitors who are participating in the Oversight Visits to North Lonsdale, First Congregation, Pemberton, Trinity and West Point Grey in Spring 2005.

Youth and Young Adult Ministry:

Tracy Murton encouraged presbyters to help circulate as widely as possible the materials contained in the envelopes distributed to each congregation by YAYA.

Campus Ministry:

Ray McGinnis reported that he had talked to more than 50 people so far, including 15 who attended a Campus Ministry visioning workshop the previous Saturday. Many different visions were mentioned including animation in adjacent congregations and a joint presbytery ministry. A fuller discussion of the mission, purpose, and theological basis for campus ministry is needed before discussing specific models.

Re:VIVE:

Tony Robinson from Seattle will be a presenter at the next Re:VIVE to be held Saturday, February 5,2005 at the Michael J. Fox Theatre in Burnaby.

Pastoral Relations:

Marianna Harris reminded everyone of the upcoming Services of Covenant:
December 5, 2004 at 9:30 AM at Highlands with Christina Atkinson
January 9, 2005 at 3:00 PM at Mt. Seymour with Nancy Talbot
February 13, 2005 at 2:00 PM at St. Andrew's-Wesley with Gary Paterson

Treasurer:

Philip Cable reported that eight congregations have paid all their 2004 allocations and we have paid all our Conference allocation. He presented the draft Youth and Young Adult Budget and the Presbytery Budget for 2005.

M/S/C/ by P.Cable/S.Shenfield

That the proposed Vancouver Burrard Presbytery Budget for 2005 be adopted as presented. The 2005 Congregational Allocation pages were distributed to presbyters with the request that they be forwarded to their congregational treasurer. The Presbytery Treasurer, Philip Cable is available by phone 604-681-8365 or email pcable@firstunited.ca to answer questions.

Next Meetings:

Executive – Wednesday, December 8th, 3:00 PM at Canadian Memorial
Presbytery – No meeting in December
Executive – Wednesday, January 12th, 3:00 PM at Canadian Memorial
Presbytery – Tuesday, January 25th, 4:00 PM at Highlands

Closing:

Maggie Watts-Hammond led prayer to close at 8:20 PM.

Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Chair

Pat Burns, Secretary