An Update from the Official Board

Hello First Church Friends!

Welcome back!! Not sure why it is, but it feels like we have started a new “Church Year” We wanted to bring everyone up to speed on our current situation and plan moving forward with finding a full-time minister, as it is not as straight forward as you might think.

The region has assigned us Don Macpherson (from Talbotville United), as our Pastoral Charge Supervisor. Don will attend our board meetings and he will be available for any pastoral needs, but will not be attending worship services or holding office hours.

Jim Evans (from New Vision) will continue on as our Liaison and will be working with our Transition Committee to create a job description(s) for an Interim and/or Supply Minister. The Interim Minister would then work with the Transition Committee and Search Committee (which may or may not be the same group of people) and congregation to help us find the right candidate for our full-time Ministry position. The Interim Minister might just be doing the transition work, possibly remotely, and we would then require a supply Minister for the “normal” Ministry duties (Sunday Mornings, etc), or it is possible that the Interim could do both duties. The Interim Minister has special training to deal with the transition, whereas the Supply Minister would not.

**Wish List**

We will be setting up an unused classroom downstairs specifically for the Youth Group. We would like to have some comfortable couches and chairs in the room. At the same time, the furniture in the library could use an update. If anyone has any living room furniture in good condition, similar to what is there now (2 chairs and 2 love seats), that they are willing to donate, we could then repurpose what is in the library now into the youth room.

Also, the Property Committee brought forward the suggestion to purchase an “automated external defibrillator” (AED) machine, which would assist with interim treatment of anyone experiencing cardiac arrest. The cost of the machine is approximately $2,000. If anyone would be interested in donating money towards purchasing this machine, or knows of any other way of obtaining one, please contact Richard Auckland.

**Volunteers**

We are still in need of volunteers in various areas in the church. We need people to serve on various committees, we need coffee servers, ushers & greeters, counting team members, as well as someone to decorate the church seasonally (Ray has already offered to change the colour of the leaves outside).

**Events**

We would like to have a group help with outdoor fall cleanup, possibly trimming some bushes. Date to be determined. See Richard Auckland.

Rummage Sale (Sat. October 19th) - setup and take down and other duties as needed. See Lois Whiteman.

Holly Fair Bazaar /Vendor Event (Sat. November 9th) lots of help needed organizing this - see Lori Hoffman.

Santa Claus parade float (Sat. Nov 16th) - followed by cocoa, cookies and caroling at the church. This years theme is Super Heroes. See Justin Chute.

Christmas Eve Service. We would like to start organizing this now, and would like to ask the help of the congregation for ideas and planning, possibly forming a subcommittee under Worship and Music. Please see Karen Auckland.

**PD day camp**

In an effort to spread the word of God, we were considering running small day camps at the Church on the school PD days. In order to do this, we would require adult volunteers to help, as well as high school students if they are available. Please contact the office or Justin Chute if interested.

If you have any questions about anything mentioned, please contact Lori Hoffman ([office@1stunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@1stunitedchurch.ca)), Richard Auckland ([rauck27@gmail.com](mailto:rauck27@gmail.com)) or myself ([justinchute@gmail.com](mailto:justinchute@gmail.com)).

Thank you,

Justin Chute, Chair of the Official Board