



Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, June 9th, 2015 - 6:30 pm, Brentwood Campus

Welcome – Pastor Dave welcomed the group to the meeting.

Worship – Darrell Nevers led the group in a time of worship through singing.

Board Chair, Dean Hennessey, called the meeting to order and asked to have the minutes from last year adopted. Bernadette Knowles moved and it was seconded by Kevin Steeves. There were no questions or mention of errors/omissions. It was approved unanimously. Dean opened in prayer.

Pastor Dave told the group that Dave and Ruth Tramley have finished their chapter leading the marriage care ministry at TJC. They were presented with a gift and thanked for the time they have given in this ministry. Dave and Ruth thanked the marriage care team and those who have participated in their events.

A slideshow of pictures showed moments taken by The Journey Church community over the past ministry year. He shared some of the key highlights that the senior leadership team have had this past year. Todd feels that we need to be aware of how we are engaging people in this day and age – 9,500 hits on TJC YouTube channel. Social media, YouTube channel, broadcasting the sermons have all made a huge impact. Pastor Jen's highlight was the Youth Alpha – 82 people involved. Kids were able to explore their faith and are now regularly attending youth group, with one being baptized this June. Pastor Brent felt the way we have been equipping people was his highlight – such as seeing the culmination of Carolyn Steeves' growth in ministry over the past 20 year; from small ministry jobs in the church to her ordination this past fall. For Linda it was the way we embraced our community through the Easter offering. We were able to give money to 13 local schools that were in need. Pastor Dave's highlight was encouragement – this is his 29th AGM/Church Meeting. He asked himself why he wants to continue in this ministry – it's because the church matters (Jesus said it's important, so it's important!). In the church we learn how to love God and love others. We're the church as we go from this place to our homes and places of business, as well as when we come together. It's about walking together.

2020 Vision Update – Our mission: leading people to follow Jesus love God and love others. How do we achieve this mission? The Imagineer Team wrestled with this question over 18 months. Our vision: becoming a church that loves like Jesus. We need to let this vision infiltrate our marriages, our families, our communities and places of work. The challenge with this vision is hard to define – we need to wrestle through what it means for us individually. This vision is expressed in three paths: 1. Embrace our broken community, 2. Grow great souls, 3. Refresh our resources. The TJC Move map was passed out to everyone with the action steps.

1. Create more Journey Groups – create places where people can experience fellowship but also have a place to heal and grow in their faith.
2. Teach a church-wide Bible Campaign – to help grow great souls. The Story series will be launched in the fall. It will be a common teaching point for most of the Journey groups.

3. Expand Care in our church – the church cares for each other. Pushing the congregation to caring for each other. Journey groups will provide care (more people in groups = more care). Campus Minister training (the hope is to have about 12 trained ministers). Pastor Jack Allen, who has decades of experience in pastoral care. He will be providing 12 hours a week in pastoral care for the church starting this fall.
4. Launch a Refresh Team (for path #3) – those interested in being on this team, please speak with Dave. The team will be looking at the buildings and evaluating what the needs are. They will present a proposal in a year's time to give focus to a capital campaign.
5. Clear Paths – clarify how people can be involved in TJC, how they can serve. Clearly state how we are organized.
6. Explore multisite expressions – one example is Ty and Amanda who are leading a TJC house church in Labrador City. There may be some other opportunities more locally – churches that are closing or closed but still have people wanting to have church. The Brentwood church is a model of this. We will explore other models.

We will continue to do everything we can to grow in our weekly worship times together. We are called to bring people into the Kingdom of God.

2015/16 Budget Presentation – Linda Hisey and Neil Rogers presented the past year's spending and the proposed budget for the next ministry year. There was a PowerPoint presentation of the numbers. There was an operation deficit of \$9,002. The good news is that all the bills were paid. Total giving was \$591,354. There were some unexpected bills such as the heat pump needing to be replaced at the Brentwood Campus. In the congregational meeting in November it was agreed to pay the principal only on both of the mortgages for a year. There were a total of 5 weekend snowstorms this year and if we had not made the decision to make that decision, it would have seriously impacted the ministry of the church. The contingency fund is the cash-on-hand. It was tricky to get firm numbers because the year-end date landed on a Sunday. This year, because of the Christmas Offering, we were able to fully pay the United in Mission obligation (\$10,000). There were several points of celebration in what we were able to support with our giving. The proposed and actual spending for the 2014/15 year was pretty close.

The proposed spending plan was based on the information suggested by the Giving Rocket program. Instead of using a 'faith factor' as a part of the spending plan, it's based on using the actual numbers given the previous year. The spending proposed is very similar to what was used last year. This takes into account the vision of the church and spending toward that vision. This will be a year of cutting back – the campus pastor position, which was a $\frac{3}{4}$ time position, is being deferred for this year. We are exploring how to have the pastoral care at both campuses. There is a care plan (pastoral care leadership), the Bible Campaign, an increase in the United in Mission giving, as well as worship arts leadership development.

Neil feels that this is a better spending plan than has been done in previous years. There are about 70 families on PAD (Pre-Authorized Debit), which amounts to about 50% of overall giving. This system has kept things afloat over the winter storm weekends as well as the summer-time, when many go away. The church is encouraged to sign on to this. This helps with cash flow and is more economical for the church than using credit cards. It was asked if it could be explained how to move from writing checks to the PAD. The finance team doesn't get into those details. Linda moved that we adopt the spending plan for 2015/16 as presented. Jerry

seconded. It was asked where the money went from Carolyn's salary – it was a part of the General Fund and has been kept in those numbers. Someone was to make presentations on the personal finances, which didn't happen. There was a survey. It was asked about the results. There will be more analysis on this. A congregational member thanked the finance team for all of their work. Another member asked about the question raised on personnel expenses, which is a large part of the budget. The answer at the time was that it would be based on the vision team's results. Was this done in the new vision? Under pathway #3 this is going to be assessed. The finance team doesn't know when this will happen. Because of the smaller amount of revenue, this was put into account for the new budget (last year personnel accounted for 57% and this year it will be 55%). There will be further assessment. The new pastoral care model needs some time to see what impact it will have. The vision campaign may also involve raising funds for a new position. Bruce Fawcett put the question to adopt the plan as presented: the motion was carried.

Board Chair Report – Dean Hennessey: Dean encouraged members to look at TJC website to find out more information on the Board, who they are and what they do. He presented an overview of the highlights of the Board's activities. He used the acronym ORIGIN:

O – Organized: looking over the year there was a focus to create small groups within the Board and a prayer chain to pray for the Pastoral staff. The annual Board calendar was finalized to help give organization to the year. Sarah Cogswell is on the team as scribe.

R – Relief from Mortgage Payments: The finance team proposed the principal relief to Dave and he brought it to the Board for approval.

I – Imagineers: The pastor needs to be at the top of the tree to get a vision for the church with the Board down below to make sure he stays up there until he has the vision (keep him accountable). The Imagineers helped him with this visioning process and the Board acted as a sounding-board to provide feedback.

G – Governance Documents: We want to 'play to win' (Kaizer) and the Governance documents act as the rules to the game. They need to be kept up to date. Feedback comes from church members as well as the Board as they review them. There will be some proposed changes presented later in the meeting.

I – Interchange: There is an active candidate list which is used if a current Board member is no longer able to fulfill their duties. This is covered in the governance documents. Because of the situation with Blake Briggs (his health), Caitlin Dawe was brought onto the Board to take his place as she had gone through the Board nomination process and been approved last year. There is a limit of 6 years to be served at a time by Board members, with 6 Board members. This year Tim Frazer will be stepping off of the Board.

N – Nominations: A total of 19 names were brought as potential candidates and after the process two names stand for nomination: Kevin Steeves and Jerry Eisener.

Recognizing departing Board member: Tim Frazer. Tim was brought up and given a gift and thanked for his service on the Board.

Governance Document Proposed changes (*to be listed on website*) – Caitlin Dawe presented these. These are proposed changes but the vote will not happen today, it is a preview and an opportunity to give feedback.

They may be voted on in the fall. A lot of what the Board does is based on Kaizer's book. The Board provides accountability and support to the Pastor. The changes were presented in the PowerPoint.

The first change is a footnote in Section 5 – Church Membership.

The second change proposed is in Section 8 – Board Selection.

The third proposed change is in Section 15 – Financial Procedure.

Dean was asked to give a quick reason for the changes. For the first, there was an email from a member who had left the church and wanted their name removed and this was not dealt with in the governance documents. The second is related to the situation with Blake Briggs. There is direction in the governance documents but was unclear as to who was on the Active Candidate list and needs clarification for future events. The third change was proposed by the Finance Team. There wasn't much change to the wording but added in. It gives more freedom to use the funds donated to honor the intention of the giving but not be restrictive. It was asked if it had been checked with Revenue Canada to see if this kind of policy is ok. Linda answered that they have been checked and do recommend it. She checked with the book provided by Revenue Canada. This is also in line with what World Vision does as well. A comment on the second point – does the wording have to say 'must' or can it say 'may' to give flexibility in cases when things happen close to the end of the ministry year. The Board felt that in this instance it was important to have a full running Board but it is something to consider. A key line in this part of the document is clarifying conflicting (and perceived conflicting) interest – listing who can and cannot be a part of the Board. The conflicts are when people are at a senior level of leadership they cannot be a member of the Board. There needs to be allowance to still do ministry in the church (i.e. they could be a worship leader but not a Finance Team leader). There were no further questions or comments.

Board Candidate introductions and interviews: Dale Hatchard led the time of introducing and interviewing the Board candidates - Kevin Steeves and Jerry Eisener. Dale outlined the process of being nominated, trained, and interviewed by the Board.

Q: How did you decide to continue with this process?

Kevin – this is the third year he has been nominated. He had gone through the process before but did not feel ready. This year he felt God's prompting and felt ready to proceed.

Jerry – was also nominated last year and wrestled through whether to continue through the process again. He also felt the need to proceed.

Q: Where do you serve in the church right now?

Jerry – participates on worship teams and with youth.

Kevin – led in the Starting Points groups and is currently in a small group.

Q: What enthuses you about the vision statement?

Kevin – bringing new people into the church – being fishers-of-men. Learning to use the right 'bait.'

Jerry – seeing how this vision will look in local missions. The youth are excited about this and he would like to see this excitement church-wide.

Q: What is something you do to help yourself grow in your faith?

Jerry – has specific devotional times each day. He is working on a reading plan to read through Matthew.

Kevin – uses the YouVersion app for daily Bible reading.

It was opened to the congregation to ask the candidates questions. Kevin was asked – Who are you going to vote for? (Laughter)

Q: If you were sitting on the Board and found the Pastor had a conflict of interest, how would you deal with it?

Jerry – Would be glad that it would be a Board decision. Look at the situation thoroughly to see if it is an actual conflict of interest. If it is, how serious it is, then looking at the rules of Governance to help determine this.

Kevin – Concurred that he was glad it was a group, not individual responsibility. He would also want to gather more information.

It was asked about the process of voting – would the people downstairs be able to vote as well (those eligible who are helping with kids downstairs). Yes – they will have the opportunity to vote.

Candidate Vote – ballots were handed out. Ernie Weaver and the scrutineers were responsible for passing these out and gathering them and counting the votes.

While the ballots were being counted Dean mentioned Oasis (Baptist Convention) is happening this summer and TJC would like to have some delegates to send. Any interested in being a part of this can talk with Dean or one of the other Board members. Information about this event is available at the kiosks.

New Board Member Announced – Jerry Eisener was nominated.

Member Questions & Feedback – No further comments were made.

Closing Prayer – It was asked if there needed to be a motion to have the ballots destroyed. This did not need to be moved. Ernie was to destroy them. Dave closed the meeting in prayer. It was announced that Jen Rowsell and Jordan MacWilliams are engaged to be married and will be tying the knot in November.