

STONY PLAIN
ALLIANCE CHURCH

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IMPORTANT INFO

In preparing for our 2023 Spring Converge, here are some very important pieces of information that we would like you to be aware of:

DATE | Tuesday, June 20, 2023 6:00pm - Potluck Supper 7:00pm - Converge Meeting

LOCATION | **In-Person** (with an option to join online if requested ahead of time)

ATTENDING OPTIONS

 There are two options for attending our 2023 Spring Converge: In Person or Online. If you would like to attend online, please contact the Church Office (780-963-2082 or emalee@spaconline.com) as soon as possible to register and to receive a link for joining online.

POTLUCK DETAILS

Those attending in person, please join us for a potluck supper at 6pm. Please
note that this spring we're trying something different. SPAC won't be providing
the main dish. Rather we're asking the following for those joining for supper:
Families with last names beginning with A-M please bring a main dish to share;
families with last names beginning with N-Z please bring a salad or dessert to
share.

ENGAGEMENT

 During the Converge Meeting there is always opportunity for questions from the floor. Online participants will be able to engage in asking questions by using the online chat box, submitting their questions ahead of time or by using the hand raising icon on the screen, at which time the online host will unmute that participant and they will be able to verbally ask their question.

VOTING

- Please note that only formal members of SPAC are eligible to vote during the meeting.
- The voting that will take place during the meeting is for the (1) Agenda, (2) Fall 2022 Converge Minutes, (3) The 2023-24 Budget, and (4) the Elder nominations as laid out in the Nominating Committee Report of the Spring Converge Booklet.
- For those attending in person, they will be given a voting ballot with the elder nominations when they arrive and those will be collected and tallied in-person during the meeting. For those attending online, please call the church office as soon as possible to request a voting ballot be mailed to you. Please return this ballot by mail as soon as possible so that your ballot can be received before June 20 and counted during the meeting as well.

AGENDA

6pm - Potluck Supper

7pm - AGM opening with worship and devotional

- 1. Call To Order
- 2. AGM Session Rules Explained
- 3. Adopt Agenda
- 4. Adopt Minutes
- 5. Ministry Report
- 6. New Business:
 - (a) 2023-2024 Budget
- 7. Nominating Committee Report; Elder Votes and Election Results
- 8. Adjourn Meeting/Close in prayer

FALL CONVERGE MINUTES

November 15, 2022

1. Call to Order

Dan Kehler called the meeting to order at 7:39 pm. 65 people (43 members + 22 adherents) in attendance.

2. AGM Rules Explained

Dan explained how the meeting will be held and votes conducted. Reverse voting in effect for members joining online.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Robert Wolfe and seconded by Jolene Wiens that the agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried

4. Adopt Minutes of Spring Converge 2022

Moved by Aimee Kehler and seconded by Tricia Shane that the Spring Converge (June 22, 2022) meeting minutes be accepted as presented. **Carried**

5. Financial Statements Presentation

Rob shared that our Board met with our accountant, Jason Kennedy in October to review our annual financial statements. Jason affirmed that he, once again, received our books in excellent condition. Rob expressed gratitude for Lorraine Robinson, our bookkeeper.

Rob noted that overall, our assets have gone down due to the 1.3 million sale of the auditorium in 2021. Our capital assets refer to our land, building and equipment, etc.

At the end of our previous ministry year, SPAC experienced a shortfall of \$756,855 based on our 1.1 million budget.

Our remaining long-term debt loans are: 3.6 million and \$549,288 as explained on page 17 of the financial statement.

Question: Have we sold the land on the west side of Stony Plain?

Answer: We have not sold this land yet, as Stony Plain has not grown that direction as of now and the land is valued less than we had originally predicted. The Board and the WCD have decided it is not in our best interest, at this time, to sell this land.

Moved by Sue Fulmore and seconded by Debi Mills, that the 2022 Financial Statements, presented by Hawkings Tinney LLP, be accepted as presented. **Carried**.

6. Prayer and Adjournment at 7:51 pm.

Motion to adjourn by Jack Adkins, seconded by Amanda Adkins. **Carried**.

Dan Kehler closed the meeting with prayer.

MINISTRY REPORTS

PASTOR WADE

Dear Stony Plain Alliance family,

I must confess that reflection does not come naturally to me. I find that my mind and heart are most easily drawn to things of the future with the magnetism of vision and the exhilaration of how to get 'from here to there'. Yet, despite this tendency, I know that one of the refrains of scripture is a call to pause and remember. We are invited time and again through the stories and directives of the Bible to not lose sight of where we've come from and to always remember God and His ways with us. These acts of remembrance are for our benefit and for the blessing of those we walk through life with.

What you'll see in the reports that follow are more than the statistics of a local church. The words shared by our pastoral team are testimonies of God's faithfulness and the responsiveness of people to the invitations of Jesus toward fullness of life. I hope you'll thoughtfully read each submission and take time to pause and reflect on your own walk with Jesus over the last 12 months.

As I've taken the time to be reflective about this this past year, Jesus keeps bringing to my mind a verse of scripture. In 1 Timothy 1:7, it says, "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline." As a church, we have been entrusted with a sacred calling to pursue Fullness of Life for Everyone by Practicing the Way of Jesus Together. While at first this can read like just a nice sentiment, the truth is that to actually move with intentionality toward this being our lived reality as a community means that we will constantly be resisting a spirit of fear. Jesus has told us that, while he is the Good Shepherd that leads us toward abundant life, there are other powers at work that want to steal, kill, and destroy the very good work of God in us. And one of the main tactics of the enemy in seeking to keep us from fullness of life is to try and make us afraid. The voice of fear wants to be the influence that makes all the decisions and lulls us to sleep through complacency. But, thanks be to God, the Spirit he has given us is not one of fear or timidity but of power, love and self-discipline. This is good news! (I don't know if anyone has ever shouted an 'Amen!' while reading an annual report, but this would be a good time to do it.)

It is this active resistance against fear and choosing instead the way of the Spirit's power, love and self-discipline, that is providing the lens through which I look back on this year. I have been a witness of this in watching our team listen attentively to Jesus and then take the risk to follow Him into new adventures. I've been filled with gratitude as I've sat with our Board of Elders and heard them silence the voice of fear in a discussion and choose that way of love that always presents a greater challenge. I've had the privilege of seeing the inbreaking of the kingdom of God as people refused to let fear make the decision in their lives



and decided to follow Jesus by being baptized, dedicating their children, confessing and being set free from besetting sin, coming to the table of mercy, serving one another, interceding by faith, seeking justice, acting generously, worshiping passionately, and using spiritual gifts to bless people close to home and around the world.

I believe that we have experienced significant movement in becoming a church that is growing in fullness of life for everyone by practicing the way of Jesus together. The report you're about to read speaks undeniably to that. We have much to be grateful for but the work to which we've been called is not yet complete. As long as there are people who have yet to experience God's redeeming love for them, we will continue to renounce fear and choose in each moment to be motivated by the power, love and self-disciple that the Holy Spirit so abundantly provides.

This is a sacred calling that we share, and it is an honour to be on this adventure with all of you. Thank-you for welcoming my family and me to this community a year ago and with humble anticipation I look forward to all that Jesus has prepared for us to fearlessly respond to in the years ahead.

PASTOR AMANDA

This year in AdventureKids we have looked at the life and ministry of Jesus, what it means to be his apprentices and how to live that out, we have been challenged in learning how to listen for Jesus' voice in our lives, and we have celebrated the truth that God is always with us

It has been a wonderful year, full of growth and celebration together. We welcomed nearly 20 new volunteer leaders, have seen children baptized and dedicated to the Lord, and we have regularly had around 100 children learning about the love of Christ with our church family on a Sunday morning!

While the need for volunteers is still present, we are not slowing down in our mission to help children and families walk in the fullness of life that Jesus promises! This summer we are hosting a 3-day VBS program, will see our Mom's group in the community with our Park Play Days, and will continue to gather in new and creative ways every Sunday.

God has been so present in the kids wing throughout this season, and there is a real sense that He is gearing us up for even more. Jesus said, "let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them" and we are bearing witness to the ways in which children joyfully and wholeheartedly run to embrace him when this is true. Our Prayer team put it this way: "We looked into the windows of the Great Room (where our Grades 1-6 students were gathered) and we saw a picture of the Kingdom of heaven."

Thank you, church, for your continued prayer, support, and love as we journey to Jesus with our next generation.



PASTOR BEN

From last year to now, SPACYOUTH has seen a lot of new faces and there has been notable increase in the Gr. 7 group in particular. There have also been more cases of students who don't describe themselves as churchgoers attending. This has created a fun, high-energy atmosphere where students ask honest questions, and they seem to have a desire to truly find out more about who Jesus is. It's been really encouraging to see this group of people seeking out a more genuine faith, and they're just a straight-up fun group to be with.

We've covered several topics during this year, which are: Ghost Stories (explaining the Holy Spirit); Defy (Jesus defying the norms for the sake of us); Dark to Light (how Jesus saved us all); and Uprooting Lies, Planting Truth (how to get rid of the lies in our heads). It was great to see student's engagement with the last one in particular, as dealing with these lies seem to be a common, current dilemma that people deal with.

There have been several students wanting to pursue a deeper life with Jesus, made evident by 7 students being baptized on April 2nd and 2 more currently prepping for baptism! Jesus has been at work and I'm so excited to see students decide to walk in the direction of him.

Throughout my time this year at SPACYOUTH, I have felt so grateful for our team of youth leaders. They have shown me grace, provided me wisdom, and offered so much support along the way, and their hard work and dedication is being made evident by the fruit being produced here. Thank you all.

SPAC Young Adults did not exist up until this past summer, and it has been so fun to be a part of! It's a mix of both university students and full-time workers, but we've found that life is busy on both ends, so SPAC Young Adults has been focused on finding ways to slow down and provide practical ways to be with Jesus. The first series focused on was 'Ruthless Elimination of Hurry' by John Mark Comer, and the second was 'Be Still' with Brian Heasley. In addition to small group studies, the group has helped prepped meals for those in need, shared meals in individuals' homes, and has created many experiences to bond as a group.

In both ministries, I've noticed multiple people getting revelations, dreams, and various promptings by the Spirit and it's exciting to see what he's up to. People seem to demonstrate a desire to be with each other, to cultivate their own genuine faith, and have an interest in finding out more about who Jesus is. It's been such an encouraging (yet challenging) year, and I couldn't have asked for a better staff team, as they have been nothing short of supportive, kind, and helpful throughout my time here.

PASTOR MATT

This past year has brought a lot of change and transition. A year ago I was finishing up my time as the youth pastor here at SPAC, and transitioning into my role of Spiritual Formation Pastor. Now one of the common questions I have gotten over the past year is something to the extent of what does a spiritual formation pastor do? A big part of my job goes to exploring how it is that we grow as apprentices of Jesus, people who are WITH Jesus, becoming LIKE Jesus, and DOING what Jesus does.

The goal of our men's ministry over the past year was to build relationships between the men of our church. Between the pandemic and the growth that we've seen over the past year we identified a need to bring men together. Also one of the troubling statistics over the past decade has been the rising rates of loneliness among men, and so we have wanted to play our part in helping men to connect. Over the past year focused on connecting events like a crib tournament, disc golf and bbq, hockey and Super Bowl watch parties, and a men's breakfast. I am grateful for the team I get to work with: Kendyl Cooper, Wade Hagman, John Ginter, and Kevin Nickurak.

This year Many people signed up for the Alpha program, so many in fact that we needed to get extra leaders on the opening day. Alpha is an eleven week video course that creates a space for a conversation about life, faith and Jesus. The community around Alpha that was built was great and were served some amazing snacks by members of our church family. The Paddon's provided great leadership over Alpha in conjunction with our table leaders: Jolene and Kelly Wiens, Tammy and Glen Nelson, and Judy Kelly.

Every other Thursday afternoon the church lobby has been ringing with the joyful sounds of our Hymn Sings. These afternoons are filled with song and story, as they sing of the goodness of God and reflect on the ways God has been speaking to them. Afterwards there is a great and boisterous time of fellowship in the cafe. I am a grateful for the Mulder's and Barnes' leadership over this time.

Our addiction recovery group has been faithfully meeting online every Tuesday night. They are led by Sherry Sadleir, Lillian Helton, and Tony Caron.

One of the things that I have spent a fair bit of time on behind the scenes has been the formation and pilot testing of a new tool for our apprenticeship journeys with Jesus. This tool is called Apprenticeship Groups. Apprenticeship Groups are designed around meeting in groups of 2-3 and practicing reading scripture, confession, and praying for others in our lives that don't know Jesus. Stay tuned in fall to hear more about them, or feel free to reach out to me about them.

Lastly I have loved to delve deeper into the world of pastoral care. It is a deep space of joy for me to walk in my shepherd gifting and watch as Jesus ministers to people. It is a privilege to walk with people as they walk with Jesus, helping to learn his voice, to see what it means to live lives of apprenticeship in our context. I have been able to have the freedom to learn a lot over the past year about growing in Christ and look forward to implementing this learning more.

I am grateful to Jesus that he has entrusted me to be a part of the staff team here, and look forward to what he will be up to in the coming year.

Grace and Peace.

PASTOR SHELEENA

This past year, my first in full-time pastoral ministry, has been one of growth, challenge, and new horizons. After graduating from Ambrose last spring, my portfolio expanded from worship and communications to include life groups and prayer ministry. I have been both challenged and encouraged by the staff team and others as I have grown into this role and am deeply grateful to serve in such a prayerful, Spirit-empowered and supportive church.

In the area of worship ministry, it has been a joy to welcome many new vocalists and musicians to our Sunday morning teams and we have been enriched by the gifts and talents they have chosen to grow in and share with our worshipping community. Our service planning team is deeply committed to our gatherings being centered around how Jesus is forming us as a community through song, prayer, coming to the Table, and encountering the living Word through Scriptures. I am grateful for how our worship leaders choose songs and lead from a place of prayerful preparation in partnership with what the Spirit is doing in all areas of our Sunday gathering, not just the music, and with attention and honor given to the remaining 167 hours per week of community life and worship of our scattered church.

Another highlight of this last year has been our Sunday evening Encounter Nights where we worship and pray in an extended, unhurried environment and follow the leading of the Spirit for ourselves and on behalf of the church.

Our posture is expectation. Our response is surrender. Our privilege is asking. Our joy is receiving.

Each time we meet, the Spirit of God does a new thing in our midst. This past year, we experienced the love of God, a recovery of healthy longings, an extended time of corporate lectio, and all kinds of healing.

Our prayer ministry has also experienced growth and momentum this past year. We are blessed as a church to be supported by a group of passionate intercessors. The Prayer Leadership Team meets once a month to cast vision around how the Spirit is guiding our church and they also meet regularly to pray around particular events, leadership requests or community prayer needs. Our growing Sunday Morning Prayer Team has added new members and together they cover our gatherings in prayer throughout the morning and are available after the services to pray for individuals. We also have a network of eighty people called PrayerLink. As community needs and requests come to our attention, this group of faithful intercessors are notified and pray as Jesus leads them. This past year, we hosted a Leadership Event on Growing in Prayer, followed by an Evening of Prayer for the needs of the world. We are confident that the Spirit will continue to shape us as a praying people - attentive to the voice of the Good Shepherd and committed to deferring to Jesus as our functional prayer and worship leader.

Finally, it has been a joy to watch **life groups** relaunch this year coming out of our fall kickoff. I have been involved with life groups for many years, prior to them becoming a part of my role, and know intimately the challenges involved in trying to facilitate meaningful community during a season of forced separation like the one COVID offered. I can happily report that while most groups experienced loss or transition of some kind, this year has been one of new beginnings! Many newcomers have found community, several people have faithfully stepped into life group leadership, and there are many good news stories of people being the hands and feet of Jesus to one another. We also had a weekly drop-in sermon discussion group that offered connection and conversation for many wanting to dig deeper into Sunday's message. There is a hunger growing among us for meaningful,

intentional community that models the Kingdom of God. In life groups, we care and are cared for. We pray and are prayed for. We welcome and are welcomed. We teach and are taught. **We practice the way of Jesus, together**.

In all these ways and more, God has been growing us as a church that worships, prays, and does life together in the power of the Holy Spirit. It is a privilege to have a front row seat to the in-breaking Kingdom of God in our midst and be able to name and celebrate His goodness to us.







Stony Plain Alliance Church GENERAL FUND July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024



July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	Full year July-June 2023/2024	Full year July-June 2022/2023	
<u> </u>	draft BUDGET	BUDGET	
General Fund Income	\$1,239,939	\$1,321,914	
Direct Ministry Costs (net of cost recovery):			
Adventure Ministries	\$5,757	\$7,126	
Youth Ministry	\$6,865	\$8,000 \$900	
Young Adults Adults	\$765 \$10,744	\$900 \$11,438	
Community Engagement	\$11,600	\$14,500	
Worship and Creative Arts	\$11,420	\$9,700	
Missions (does not include congregant missions giving)	\$650	\$10,650	
Events & Promotion	\$10,722 \$58,523	\$17,110 \$79,424	
Staffing & Training Expenses:	\$30,323	\$79,424	
Payroll (Wages & Employer Costs + Group Benefits)	\$640,000	\$671,000	
Staff Support			
Gifts - pastoral and support	\$280	\$500	
Books and Subscriptions Continuing Education	\$0 \$1,200	\$3,250 \$14,000	
Denominational Conferences	\$3,000	\$7,800	
Meals	\$2,700	\$5,400	
Mileage	\$4,000	\$6,000	
Cell Phone	\$4,320	\$4,680	
Candidating & Moving Costs	\$0 *F 505	\$11,000	
Staff and Elder training & events	\$5,595 \$661,095	\$6,700 \$730,330	
Office & Administration Expenses Office	\$001,033	\$730,330	
Office Rent - Park House	\$ 0	\$0	
Computer software & tech support	\$19,127	\$23,100	
Copier lease and service Postage & Courier	\$6,412 \$1,800	\$7,780 \$3,500	
Office Supplies	\$1,800 \$2,000	\$2,500 \$2,500	
Service Charges, Licenses & Subscriptions	\$11,380	\$10,900	
<u> </u>	\$40,719	\$46,780	
Building Expenses:			
Mortgage - Principal & Int. payments	\$342,525	\$312,000	
Sunday Space - LWCA Rent	\$0	\$0	
Utilities Carbaga Removal	\$48,120	\$42,900	
Garbage Removal Repairs & Maintenance	\$1,836 \$39,411	\$2,700 \$31,730	
Cleaning Supplies	\$2,320	\$3,800	
<u> </u>	\$434,212	\$393,130	
Capital Expenses	\$7,000	\$5,000	
Amortization	\$7,000	\$3,000 \$0	
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Other Expenses:		407.000	
District Operating Budget (3% of general fund)	n/a \$20,406	\$27,000 \$12,250	
Insurance Cemetery - Maintenance	\$20,406 \$10,500	\$13,250 \$10,500	
Cemetery - Maintenance Cemetery - Expansion	\$10,300	\$10,500 \$0	
Reserve Fund (1% of general fund)	n/a	\$9,000	
Professional Fees	\$7,485	\$7,500	
	\$38,391	\$67,250	
Income Net of Expenses	(\$0)	\$0	
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GIVING REPORT

Giving From July 1, 2022 to May 25, 2023 Our fiscal year is July 1 to June 30. The numbers below represent 47 of 52 weeks.

\$

[C]

[D]

-\$

[A]+[B]+[C]-[D]

1,194,807

1,340,857

4,143,405

(\$10,931,264)

Budget as of May 25, 2023 (includes all mortgage and interest costs)

GENERAL FUND

Auditorium sale - land & building

North Business Park land & building

Total building fund net of all expenses

Actual received as of May 25, 2023			845,191
Budget vs. Actual shortfall (this does not represent a cash shortfall)			(\$349,616)
MISSIONS (Global Advance, Short Term Missions, Home Missions, Refugee Sp. \$52,334	onsors	hip, etc	
BUILDING FUND			
New building funds raised as of June 30, 2022 (Reach Beyond and Flourish)		\$	2,592,287
Less - New building expenses July 1, 2022 to May 25, 2023			(\$7,693)
Net building funds raised as of May 25, 2023	[A]	\$	2,584,594
Total Family Centre Building Replacement Value (BRV) Received	[B]	\$	2,862,408

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

ELDERS UP FOR ELECTION OR RE-ELECTION

The Nominating Committee nominates the following members as Elders for a two-year term:

Jack Adkins, 2-year term re-election Rob Davidson, 2-year term re-election Jeff Nixon, 2-year term election

ELDERS CURRENTLY SERVING

Linnaea Anderson, Sue Fulmore, Clark Mills, and **Jay Ridderikhoff** are currently serving a two-year term.

In keeping with our local church constitution: Other nominations, if any, shall be made in writing, signed by two members in good standing and filed with the chairman of the nominating committee for posting on the Sunday prior to the annual meeting (Spring Converge).

ELDERS WHO HAVE COMPLETED OR RESIGNED THEIR SERVE

Dan Kehler Teri Rebagliati

APPRENTICE APPOINTMENT

Apprentices are not elected, but rather appointed by the Board of Elders. Apprentices go through a process of mentorship and growth and could potentially be available to serve as elders following this process.

David Jansen, 1-year term apprentice

2023 NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

February 9, 2015, the Board of Elders passed a motion to entrust the task of nominating from the general membership a minimum of two individuals for election at the annual general meeting. As such, the present Nominating Committee has nominated the following members to represent the general membership on the 2024 Nominating Committee:

Sherralee Tinney Lani Lupul

Members can also nominate others from the floor at the annual finance meeting (Fall Converge).

Respectfully submitted,

Wade Paton, Lead Pastor Nominating Committee Chair 2023 Nominating Committee Members:

Tammy Nelson (Elected Member)
Kelsey Sawatzky (Elected Member)
Linnaea Anderson (Board Representative)
Jay Ridderikhoff (Board Representative)
Kimberly McElroy (Executive Pastor)
Wade Paton (Lead Pastor)

NOMINATED ELDERS



JACK ADKINS

Jack and his wife, Amanda, have been married for 32 years. They have two married sons, Adam and Quinn. Jack and Amanda have attended SPAC since 2016.

For 22 years, Jack has worked as an addiction's counsellor for Alberta Health Services.

Jack's ministry experience with SPAC includes: Elder and small group leader in AdventureTime

ROB DAVIDSON

Rob and his wife Shauna have been married for 27 years. Their kids (Nolan and Lainey) are both at home while attending university.

Their family has attended SPAC since 2006. Rob is a General Manager at a warehouse that he has been at for 13 years.

Rob's ministry experience at SPAC includes: Elder, SPAC Youth small group leader, tech ministry, men's ministry leader, Life Group leader and many other areas of the church. He is passionate about board games and disc golf and him and Shauna love to do both with friends.



JEFF NIXON

Jeff and his wife, Tayce, have been married almost 15 years. They have three children, Emery, Adalynne and Hartley.

Jeff currently works for Alberta Municipal Affairs. As well as providing advisory support to municipalities in the areas of governance, administration and legislative compliance, Jeff also assists not-for-profits and the private sector with strategic growth, branding, and best-practice governance through his firm he founded in 2009, Synergist Communications and Consulting.

Jeff has been attending SPAC since 1999, and attending youth events since he can remember. Jeff also has been part of SPAC's worship team over the past twenty years.



NOMINATED APPRENTICE



DAVID JANSEN

David is Saskatchewan born and enjoys hiking, taking his family on adventures and is a lifelong learner. He and his wife, Shara-Rae, have been married for 10 years. They have two children, Joshua and Peter. David has worked in residential construction and as a secondary teacher. He is currently a part business owner of a fencing company.

David and his family have been attending SPAC since May 2018 when they moved to the area from Grande Prairie.

David's ministry experience includes young adults, children ministry, and small group leader. He currently is on the Executive Board at Mount Carmel Bible College.



















