

# VISIONING RESPONSES FROM CONGREGATION

## Visioning Workshop ~ June 2, 2019

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### Question #1:

*What's import to you about Bashaw United Church? What about the church matters to you?*

- We're open to listening, learning & adapting to our new world.
- Acceptance of children; it's safe for them to behave like kids.
- Inclusion of whole family.
- Fellowship with pot-lucks etc. (on Sundays and at other times)
- Leadership by different people at different times.
- Visits from Robin and Alan during illness.
  
- Our worship rituals.
- Celebration of creation.
- Supporting those in need in our prayers.
- Creativity and art of "Gatherings" (e.g. quilting, art, videos, music).
  
- Community participation; community awareness of us; able to reach younger people.
- Movie Nights.
- We use social media.
- We're the heart of Bashaw.
- Ecumenical relationships are important. Used to have them; need to revive them.
  
- Progressive: we allow new ideas to be born and grow.
- Welcoming to people from other times.
- Love authenticity & openness embodying the Spirit.
- Able to be part of something more than ourselves.
  
- Robin's leadership and ministry.
- Gets to know us.
- Articles in Bashaw News, and his blogs on line.
- Important messages; they bring conversations.
- Visits in lodges

Question #2:*What do you hope to see happening at BUC in 5 years?*

- “Gatherings” happens frequently; many people participating (e.g. 30-40)
- “Rising Spirit Ministry” is expanding to include other churches in other communities (e.g. Lacombe United Church), using down streaming and social media. Important to connect with other United Churches because we share much in common.
- “Rising Spirit Ministries,” Ponoka partnership, and “Six Ways From Sunday” are continuing, growing, models for other churches, the new regions, etc.
- Bashaw Community Theatre is expanding (updating equipment—e.g. lighting, air-conditioning, etc.)
- The church is busy with stuff that involves volunteers.
  
- A new demographic is emerging; we’re a more diverse congregation (e.g. age, gender).
- Like Robin says, we’re all connected by God.
- We are welcoming to other cultures and to learning about them (Asian, Indigenous—e.g. smudging,” “blanket exercise,” etc.).
- More from Indigenous cultures included in our services, and visiting to Indigenous communities is happening (e.g. Pow-Wows, etc.).
- There are more events that encourage younger generations.
- It’s a new world; cloned people are attending services and events.
  
- Growth is happening—art, welcoming spirit, listening abilities.
- More live music is happening in our Sunday worship (musicians, ad hoc choirs, etc.)
- Children (groups, activities) expanding into the community (e.g. about water, with the Lodge, etc.).
  
- There is more “Robining”! He’s still here. We don’t put it all on Robin, so others are involved. It’s not only Robin leading the growth.
- Our building has expanded; there is more space. So there is space for storage, for pastoral care, & for meditation.

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Question #3:

*Where have you seen other churches with great ideas and influence?*

- Austin New Church: every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, people meeting in the minister's home.
- Bethel Lutheran Church & Camrose United: statement is in all the pews.
  
- Doing our discipleship in diverse ways and in our comfort zones.
- We have some community events; e.g. a tailgate barbecue (the smell attracts people in); a community picnic; block parties.
- Some churches have discussion groups on articles in "The Observer," "Broadview."
- Skylight Festival — a great experience; one example: bringing people (guest speakers, community people) in "The Spoken Word."
  
- Ministry is all of us together.

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