

Report of Affirm Committee to FDEE Regional Council

Committee: With recent departures from the committee plus new members, the Affirm Committee for FDEE Regional Council is comprised of three main members: Corinna Wentzell, James Martin-Carter DLM and Rev. James Ravenscroft, with Rev. Faith March-McCuish offering support to the committee's work. We are seeking new members. In this, preference will be given to members whose own identities will help ensure that the committee is reflective of the goals of inclusion for the region as well as reflective of some regional representation.

Timeline for the Committee: The Affirm Committee was created to discern and facilitate the possibility of First Dawn Eastern Edge becoming an Affirming Ministry. Given the diversity of opinions on this possibility, members of the committee feel that we should not rush this process but focus on education both at the upcoming Regional Council meeting combined with input from various committees. We anticipate working toward a vote in 2025.

Members of the committee propose the following process:

- a. Give a presentation on what it means to be an Affirming Ministry at upcoming Regional Council meeting. This would present broad ideas about inclusion in our shared life.
- b. Host an optional workshop at the Regional Council meeting to dig deeper.
- c. Have a resource table at the meeting with information about Affirm United.
- d. Following the meeting, give individual committees an opportunity to discern together how they as a committee can out the Vision Statement passed at last year's meeting.

Developing our Affirm Plan:

Part of being an Affirming Ministry includes having a plan for the future. The committee will work on what these could be, seeking input from committee members and others in the Region.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. James Ravenscroft
Chair, FDEE Affirm Committee