**Eastside United Church Leadership Team**

**Minutes of the August 24, 2021 Meeting**

**Attendees:** Sarah Tkachuk, Russell Mitchell-Walker, Bonnie Yake, Sam Baidoo, Bonny Manz, Cathie Henderson, Linda Fowler, Becca Dziaduck, Jim Fallows

**Regrets:** Doug Scheurwater, Anita Tessier

| **Agenda**  **#** |  | **Action** |
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| 1. , | **Call to Order – Sarah**  Sarah called the meeting to order at 7:04. |  |
|  | **Opening Devotion – Russell**  Sharing circle and prayer. |  |
|  | **Acceptance of the Agenda**  Minor errors corrected. Bonnie moved the agenda be accepted. 2nd by Linda. Carried |  |
|  | **Minutes of the June 16, 2021 Leadership Team meeting and May 30, 2021 Congregational meeting**  Cathie moved acceptance of the minutes. 2nd by Bonnie. Carried |  |
|  | **Reports**  **5.1 Minister’s – Russell**  Report attached.  Some difficulties with linking live streaming with Zoom so only option at the moment for congregation is Facebook live. Hoping to get a donated projector that may provide what is needed. It can be streamed through Zoom but it would mean people could not be part of the service or participate. There is also an issue between the wireless microphone and WIFI so not working well and microphone may need upgrading. Discussion regarding pre-recording portions of the service for those not attending the service in-person, such as for Prayers of the People and Work of Art and possibly even Open Hearts Jar.  Russell also named the people that have been helping with sandwich making and/or baking for ICF.    **5.2 M&P - Cathie**  Quiet summer so no report necessary.    **5.3 Region - Becca**  Anything important from the Region has been shared via the weekly emails.  **5.4 Finance – Jim**  Expenses have been close to budget. PAR has been very good but envelope giving has been low but it is hoped it will improve once back to in-person services. We currently have about a $10,400. deficit. Not sure we need to be overly concerned at this time nor necessary to alert congregation until at least the end of September. Next year we will have the $10,000. set aside for the mortgage so would help should we have a deficit at that time.  **5.5 Living Spirit Centre Committee – Bonnie**  Quiet over the summer so no report necessary.  **5.6 Faith Formation – Russell**  An email was sent to parents/grandparents of children/grandchildren regarding candle lighting. A digital curriculum will be used for Sunday School this year so can be sent to families or done in-person. There was discussion held with the UC Ministers both to welcome the interim minister for Wesley, plus discussing what other churches experience with children’s attendance. A number of families have concerns about attending church with COVID still an issue.  **5.7 Gratitude team**  No report, next meeting September 14th.  **5.8 Congregational Care - Linda**  No meetings have been held over the summer and it has been a fairly quiet summer.  **5.9 Chair – Sarah**  Did further follow up with Wesley but was told they are busy right now with the new minister just beginning. Russell spoke to their minister and she seems amenable to working together.  Russell and Sarah reviewed the Greeter’s guidelines/instructions but may need more update after this meeting.  Sarah asked whether a Strategic Planning Session was required right now.  Sarah wants succession planning to replace her as Chair. Also, should find out if any others interested in joining the Leadership Team.  Russell and Becca had been discussing September 30th being a national day for reconciliation which will be a statutory holiday for the federal public service. They recommended that we may close our church office for that day as a show of support.  ***Bonny moved that we observe the new September 30th federal stat and close our office for the day. 2nd by Linda. Carried.*** | Session to be held in Jan. or later. |
|  | **Business arising from the Minutes (45 minutes)**  **6.1 Revision to Re-open Plan**  The latest version was distributed by Sarah.  Mandatory Vaccinations – Lots of discussion re. pre-registering, spacing, singing, children and Sunday school, etc. It is believed that getting more people than we can fit in the west sanctuary will not be a problem as people will likely be hesitant about returning. Decision to take a moderate approach, masking, hand sanitizing, distancing between people/families. Congregation will be asked only to attend in-person if they are fully vaccinated, other than children that are not yet able to be vaccinated or those unable to get the vaccination for medical reasons. And all attendees will be required to wear a mask and not sing. If not vaccinated or unwell for any reason, can attend online. It will be suggested that anyone hoping to visit with others do so outdoors.  Church crashing discussed as Eastside hosting the August 29th service.  ***Bonnie moved that revised Re-open Plan be approved. 2nd by Becca. Carried.*** | Communication will be done by office about protocols.  Decided to hold service online only. |
|  | **New Business**  **7.1 Virtual vs. in-person meetings**  Most discussed under 6.1.  Ventilation in church questioned.  Some in-person programming meetings may be held in-person and online. Committees will decide what they will do and must follow protocols.  Lunch is to be held after church the last Sunday in September, catered by Munch.  Request to be made for people willing to be on a list to look after the protocols at in-person services. Two required at each service.  **7.2 Mandatory vaccination**  Discussed under 6.1.  **7.3 Strategic planning session**  Discussed under 5.9. | Bonnie to speak to Brian to bring to LSCC.  To be confirmed or changed.  Email request to be done from office. |
|  | **Next Meeting**  Thursday, September 29th, 7:00 p.m. |  |
|  | **Closing Prayer - Russell** |  |
|  | **Adjournment**  Linda moved meeting be adjourned at 9:09 |  |