**Eastside United Church Leadership Team**

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

**Attendees:** Sarah Tkachuk, Russell Mitchell-Walker, Sam Baidoo, Bonny Manz, Cathie Henderson, Linda Fowler, Becca Dziaduck, Doug Scheurwater, Leanne Sudom, Anita Tessier

**Regrets:** Jim Fallows, Bonnie Yake

| **Agenda**  **#** |  | **Action** |
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| 1. , | **Call to Order – Sarah**  Sarah called the meeting to order at 7:05. |  |
|  | **Opening Devotion – Russell** |  |
|  | **Acceptance of the Agenda**  Sam moved the agenda be accepted. 2nd by Cathie. Carried |  |
|  | **Minutes of the September 29, 2021 Leadership Team meeting, October 27, 2021 Special Meeting, November 10, 2021 Special Meeting**  Cathie moved acceptance of the minutes. 2nd by Maureen. Carried |  |
|  | **Reports**  **5.1 Minister’s – Russell**  Report attached.   * Will discontinue Facebook Live for services, but will record the service in the sanctuary (not on Zoom) due to technical challenges. The recorded service will be posted on Facebook.   Christmas Eve service:   * Eastside has the opportunity to share Christmas Eve services with Bread of Life and Immanuel Indigenous service. * Timing of the Indigenous service is still to be determined. * Russell will check with Deb Anderson-Pratt about whether or not she’s interested in being part of a shared service with Immanuel. * Possible service times: 6:30 Eastside, 7:30 Eastside and Immanuel Indigenous, 9:00 Eastside and Bread of Life      * 1. **M&P - Cathie**   Shared Russell’s priorities and continuing education plan.   * Suggestion to pick one or 2 priorities to develop in greater depth.   Shared Becca’s priorities   * Suggestion to explore if Becca might have a new office after Christmas for greater privacy   Motion: On behalf of M&P to approve the goals Russell and Becca have discerned as presented. Cathie/ Bonny. Carried  **5.3 Region - Becca**  Zoom young adult gatherings have resumed.  Benefits through the United Church have changed significantly.  **5.4 Finance**  Committees to submit budgets to Jim.  The financial statement from October was shared.  **5.5 Living Spirit Centre Committee – Russell**  Immanuel is looking at the possibility of a community garden.  **5.6 Faith Formation – Leanne and Russell**  Most of Faith Formation was covered in Russell’s report.  Sunday School will resume virtually on December 5 at 1:00. Families are to text to indicate they are planning to attend.  **5.7 Gratitude team**  $680 was raised through the on-line auction.  Gratitude team will be following up with anyone who hadn’t yet sent in their stewardship pledge.  **5.8 Congregational Care - Linda**  Typical month with phone calls to those who haven’t been attending in-person or on-line.  **5.9 Chair – Sarah**  Vaccination Policy   * Soft start on November 21 was successful and no concerns were raised by those present. * Becca will re-send the sign-up sheet for the Leadership Team to take turns for checking vaccination status. | Russell to work with Bread of Life and Immanuel to determine if it’s possible to share all services. |
|  | **Business arising from the Minutes (45 minutes)** |  |
|  | **New Business**  House Groups   * Becca will review the House Group lists and make sure they are up to date.   Social Distance at LSC   * No longer need to have the pews roped off now that all those attending are vaccinated and will continue to wear masks during the service. |  |
|  | **Next Meeting**  Tuesday January 11, 2022 at 7:00 |  |
|  | **Closing Prayer - Russell** |  |
|  | **Adjournment**  Meeting adjourned 8:45 |  |

**Eastside United Church**

**Leadership Team Minster’s Report**

Russell Mitchell-Walker

November, 2021

**Worship Feedback Team**

The worship Feedback Team has not met so far this fall. Question to the Leadership Team is whether we feel there continued to be a need for this group.

**Pandemic Response**

In person worship has been going well. We are still working out some issues with the technology, primarily integrating Zoom. I met with Brian Abrahamson and Ray McVicar of Property and Maintenance who are evaluating the LSC Needs present and futre for both sanctuarys with regard to our A/V needs. One of the things we talked about was getting a professional in to do an assessment/audit of our needs and equipment and figure out how to get it all working better, together. Having two PowerPoints and a separate speaker for Zoom participants to be heard, is a little crazy.

I think with the present level of the pandemic it is prudent to continue with meetings online and have low capacity in the worship space.

**Regina Cluster**

The Regina Cluster ministers are going to meet once a month for support and exploring ministry together. I met with Carolyn Woodall who is Interim Minister at Wesley and while the Board doesn’t think it is the right time to explore doing things together we are both open to possibilities. She invited us to an outdoor event they are having with their Ugandan group Oct 9.

**Parish Ministry/Outreach**

I have reached out to Marilyn Miller, the principal of Glen Elm School to see what support we can offer, but they will at least welcome donations and have not heard back yet.

Bert and I at ICF have been playing phone tag as I want to check in where things are at for them. I believe they are continuing with the programs as is during this fourth wave. There continues to be a contingent from Eastside who have made sandwiches and baked all through the pandemic. I think Sonia is joining the cookie bakers.

**Pastoral Care**

I have postponed the plans to do any home visits with the fourth wave going strong, unless I get a request and the person is vaccinated. I have been catching up with people on the phone. I have followed up with Hazel Padfield whose mother Florence last year in October. We will get together when it feels safer. I did a funeral of a former Sunset member, a graveside service, last Saturday.

**Gratitude Team- Stewardship**

The Gratitude Team has been working hard to get the campaign up and running for October. We will put together the packages Oct 6 for pick up at the church Oct 10-17, then deliver those left. We have been working with Jim to set our goal for 2022 and we have been getting the identifiable giver information from Sonia to update our charts. Carol Hein and Teresa Strachan have joined the team!

**Faith Formation**

The September **Community Dinner** will continue online with October having a possible antipoverty theme.

The **Craft/Study group** is really enjoying See No Stranger, a memoir and manifesto on Revolutionary Love by Sikh author Valarie Kaur which they are finding very well written.

**Film and Faith** in September met online and will probably continue to.

**Prayer Services** have resumed online.

**Courageous Church** is on Tuesday evenings at 7pm on Sept 14 for 6 sessions.

I am offering **Faithful** **Climate Conversations** and have provided a survey to determine how many sessions folk may be interested in and when. This may wait to November to be scheduled.

**Affirming Ministry**

There is presently a Regional petition to encourage the province to ban LGBTQ conversion efforts.

**Continuing Education & Wider Church**

Wild Goose was a successful fully vaccinated event, with no reports of cases that I have heard of! I heard a few speakers that were very good and challenging.

I will be attending an in person meeting for Skylight Festival Nov. 6 in Ontario and will be off that weekend.

**LSC/MAP**

We met online as staff Sept 15 and agreed to meet once a month.