**Eastside United Church Leadership Team**

**Minutes of the January 11, 2022 Meeting**

**Attendees: Sarah Tkachuk, Sam Baidoo, Carol Hein, Bonnie Yake, Jim Fallows, Elaine Hill, Russell Mitchell-Walker, Leanne Sudom, Anita Tessier, Cathie Henderson**

**Regrets: Bonny Manz, Doug Scheurwater**

| **Agenda**  **#** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
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| 1. | **Call to Order – Sarah 7:05 PM** |  |
| 2. | **Opening Devotion – Russell Zechariah 1:4-7** |  |
| 3. | **Acceptance of the Agenda** | **Moved** that the agenda be accepted. Carol/ Anita Carried |
| 4. | **Minutes of the November 24, 2021 Leadership Team meeting** | **Moved** Minutes of November 24, 2021, be accepted. Cathie/ Sam Carried  Minutes can be found on the website |
| 5. | **Reports (45 minutes)**  **5.1 Minister’s (attached)**   * Discussion regarding Zoom for January- it was a short term solution that was determined quickly * Question if there had been any conversation about mission in Regina in the Regina Cluster- only the ministers have been meeting and there hasn’t been a Regina Cluster meeting for some time. Question how to get the Regina Cluster started again.   **5.2 M&P**   * No updates. Brenda Ademko will be Becca’s liaison person. * Becca’s office space might be available after February once the BoL intern is finished.   **5.3 Region**   * Report was submitted * Becca’s email has changed to [anderduckson@gmail.com](mailto:anderduckson@gmail.com)   **5.4 Finance – including 2022 budget review**   * PAR is at highest rate * Envelope giving has dropped, possibly to PAR and possibly to fewer in-person service * LSC costs- high because of an contribution holiday last year, Eastside % share will go up to at least 40%, but BoL revenue is not known at this time and Emmanuel was negligent. Revenue is artificially high as based on a 3 year average. * Mortgage will end in mid 2024 * Regional Council Assessment will remain at $0. It would be a revenue in and out. * Pulpit supply- increased to $1500 * Tech supply staff will have its own line   **5.5 Living Spirit Centre Committee**   * Discussed concerns about BoL financials being unknown * Will wait for the next LSC meeting to see what financials are shared. Leadership will determine next steps after that meeting. * LS Partnership (with Emmanuel) is progressing slowly in terms of what they can offer to the LSC, partners in space usage and what they need.   **5.6 Faith Formation**   * Has not met since November. Will be meeting next week   **5.7 Gratitude team**   * On-line auction was successful for a first time event. * Announcement in February to encourage people to give. * Suggestion to have a mortgage fund raiser to top up remainder for the mortgage.   **5.8 Congregational care**   * Difficult to quantify, but is well-connected from a spiritual and emotional perspective * Grief books are distributed to congregational members and as outreach * New members are needed as some members have stepped down * The Bentley – seniors’ home- reached out last year to connect with Eastside. Referrals to the Bentley will give a $2000-$4000 funding. The Bentley offered lunches to seniors, Russell would deliver the lunches.   + Concerns about Russell’s time and if there was enough time. It would involve 7 people. Russell feels that it is manageable.   + Discussion about perception of endorsing the Bentley. Will accept the donations if the seniors are open to the lunches.   + Will not share any member information. * Contacted Arcola Community Association to participate in spring community clean up. Will use the church as a meeting point. City of Regina will provide some funds to help with the clean up.   **5.9 Chair – Sarah**   * No additional information | Reports to be received.  Recommendation to communicate more for any significant changes.  **Moved** that Eastside will remain on-line until March 6, 2022, with a plan to re-evaluate 2 weeks prior to that date. Jim/ Bonnie Carried.  Russell will check with Regina Cluster group again about starting meetings again.  Recommendation to approach LSC Council to have LSC costs evaluated again as Eastside is paying 40%. Suggestion that BoL pay 40% and Emmanuel pay 20%.  Russell will look at the Chart of Services and determine a date for the Annual Financial meeting.  Jim will bring the revised budget to the next Leadership Team meeting.  A representative is needed from Eastside for the LSC Council.  Need new members to join Congregational Care. |
| 6. | **Business arising from the Minutes (20 minutes)**   * Covered above   **6.1 COVID update (return to virtual, POV update)**   * See above * LSC could be a distribution point for rapid tests during office hours. Will be discussed at the LSC staff meeting |  |
| 8. | **Next Meeting**   * Budget approval * Discuss return to in-person worship | Wednesday, February 16, 2022  7:00  Via Zoom |
| 9. | **Closing Prayer** |  |
| 10. | **Adjournment** 9:13 PM |  |

**Eastside United Church**

**Leadership Team Minster’s Report**

Russell Mitchell-Walker

January 11, 2022

**Pandemic Response**

We decided to move back to fully online worship just before Christmas starting Jan 2. This was partially due to the fact that the house groups were having trouble getting people for in person tasks given the Omicron variant. We realized that there is still some challenges technically with sound and the system needing to be muted when someone from zoom is speaking. This creates a challenge with the person doing responses where there is a quick back and forth. So we are having the response person be in person. We have also told John Bishop that he is welcome to continue to come in person so he doesn’t lose his paratransit schedule and zoom is not easy for him. While online, we should figure out the projection challenge so it is resolved when we get back. Matrix does not have a wireless transmitter/receiver to borrow and to purchase one is $400. This should be a LSC expense. If it doesn’t work for us we would have to return it. I may check with Pro AV or GV Audio for their input. I will check with Brian Abrahamson regarding this. We will continue with all programs online as well. We have been posting the worship on Facebook following the service since we stopped streaming to Facebook Live. There has been no concerns regarding this change. I have felt disconnected with the Zoom community as I don’t see them before or after worship, until the few who are left still visiting by the time I get online. This is different now that we are online and I have my laptop on the pulpit.

**Regina Cluster**

Wesley’s search for a new office administrator continues and there has been no interest in having a conversation about collaboration while the search is in process – not to interfere with the process. The Minister’s cluster has met a few times, including to welcome Pastor Carla Blakely who has been hired at Lakeview and Yellowgrass United-Lutheran shared ministry.

**Parish Ministry/Outreach**

We have started receiving some items for Glen Elm school lunches and Diane Gingras has agreed to deliver them.

I talked with Bert before Christmas when he was here to return a repaired painting. We agreed to check in after Christmas to see where their needs are and what volunteers they need. Ernie Poirier has expressed interest in delivering.

**Pastoral Care**

We had a good celebration of Becca and Evan Anderson’s wedding Dec 31 I have reached out to Taylor Balfour and working on having a visit with her. I have also been trying to get together with Alex Pelletier and his brother Kenny who lost his husband this past fall. I have been approached by Bentley of Revera who want to offer a lunch to those seniors who are on their own. I would deliver these and get a short visit in. Cong Care will discuss further with the LT.

**Gratitude Team- Stewardship**

The Gratitude Team has been working hard to get the online auction up and running last week. We have had response from 29 people from the Stewardship Campaign. Some of those resulted in increases in their PAR givings. We will follow up with those that Sonia has not received any offering from for the year.

**Faith Formation**

The **Community Dinner** will continue online this month on Jan 20.

The **Craft/Study group** will begin the study of Brian McLaren’s Faith after Doubt on Thursday (Jan 13)*.*

**Film and Faith** in will continue online in January 28.

**Prayer Services** have continued online.

**Faithful Climate Conversations** was rescheduled to meet for 2 sessions January 25 and Feb 1.

**Messy Church**: we need to consult about next steps but expect we will continue to put together bags for the community.

Christmas worship had lower attendance in person due to the pandemic omicron variant. There were 30 in person at both services, with the early service having and 34 online and the 9pm had 9 online, on our FB page.

**Continuing Education & Wider Church**

I attended a webinar last week, “When are you coming back? How to Serve Families Who aren’t Ready to come back. I am registered for a UC webinar Anti-Racism and Music tomorrow.

**LSC/MAP**

We will mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with a pulpit exchange between the three congregations. I will be preaching Jan 16 at BoL and Susan Page at our church. On Jan 23, I will preach at Immanuel and Pastor Stewart will preach at ours.