

**Wesley United Church**  
 Council Meeting by Zoom  
 March 16, 2022 7:00 pm

*Wesley United Church, located on Treaty 4 land, is an Affirming Ministry of Jesus Christ, nurturing spiritual exploration and growth. We advocate for justice and social action. We love and care for ourselves and our neighbours throughout the world.*

Present:

	Name	Position on Council
		President
	Stephanie Dove	Past President
		Vice-President
	Al Goudie	Secretary
	Jim Chernick	Treasurer
	June Blau	Admin & Finance Division Coordinator
	Frances Goudie	Christian Education Division Coordinator
R	Linda Paul	Pastoral Care Division Coordinator
	Tessa Whyte	Ministry & Personnel Division Coordinator
		Worship Division Coordinator
	Carolyn Woodall	Intentional Interim Minister
R	Kent Stewart	Transition Team Representative

R = Regrets    P = Partial

1. Call to order

Past President Stephanie Dove called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

2. Opening reflection – Frances

3. Approval of agenda

**Motion 2022-19: That the agenda be approved as circulated.** M/S Jim Chernick/Frances Goudie – carried.

4. Approval of minutes from February 16, 2022 Council meeting

**Motion 2022-20: That the minutes of the meeting of February 16, 2022 be adopted.**  
M/S Al Goudie/Jane Blau – carried.

5. Transition Team report. No report.

6. Consent Agenda

- 6.1. Vice President's report

- 6.2. Past president's report

- 6.3 Minister's report – removed from consent agenda

- 6.4 Christian Education report

- 6.5 Administration and Finance – removed from consent agenda

- 6.6 Ministry and Personnel – removed from consent agenda

- 6.7 Treasurer

- 6.8 Pastoral Care

- 6.9 Social Justice

- 6.10 Worship

- 6.11 Staff

- 6.12 WUC/UCAS Liaison Committee

**Motion 2022-21: That the Consent Agenda be approved with the Minister's, Administration and Finance and Ministry and Personnel reports removed. M/S June Blau/Jim Chernick – carried.**

Reports removed from the Consent Agenda:

Minister's report. Carolyn read the attached report.

Administration and Finance. June reported some exciting news: Sask Tel called today to ask for access to the church to do an assessment for installing the fibre optic cable. They are hoping to get things organized in April which will allow us to increase the bandwidth and do all the things we have not been able to do.

Ministry and Personnel. Tessa reported that Lee Stubbe has resigned. His last full working day is today but he will continue part time for a while. The hiring committee is working on finding a replacement. The congregation has been asked for volunteers to fill in at the office.

7. Old Business

7.1 UCAS renovations. No report

7.2 Emergency pastoral care policy development. No report. A report will be brought to the May meeting.

7.3 Meeting with Eastside United Church Leadership Team. No developments

7.4 Resumption of in person services – any changes necessary? Carolyn reported that the Emergency Preparedness Committee will be meeting the Wednesday before Palm Sunday. We are hopeful the recommendation will be that Easter Sunday the choir will be present with the congregation singing, everyone masked.

7.5 Nominating Committee report. Fran reported that they are plugging away, nothing new to report.

8. March strategy and visioning (new business)

8.1 Recruitment of a new Youth Coordinator.

Tessa reported that Hannah has resigned. She will continue until at least Easter but wishes to step down. Recruitment of a new Youth Coordinator has been referred to the Christian Education Committee. Fran will call a meeting of CE to deal with it.

8.2 Annual Self-assessment.

Carolyn read the attached email from Tracy Murton, Pastoral Relations Minister. We need to plan when it's going to be done. Do we want to wait until after the Fiscal and Program Annual Meetings? Do we want to say that because we are in a transition time and we just did an assessment to prepare for interim ministry we are well assessed? Do we have a group within the congregation who could look at this? There was agreement that because we just did an assessment to prepare for interim ministry we are in a transition time and a further assessment will be done towards the end of the transition time, no assessment is necessary at this time. Carolyn will report to Tracy accordingly.

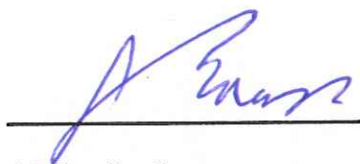
8.3 UCAS issue.

June said that during the negotiations with the Autism Resource Centre for their summer camp use of the church, she was concerned about how to handle space commitments with UCAS being a partner, not a tenant. There is no guidance in the contract about how to balance the space needs of UCAS as a partner with Wesley's ability to rent to user groups. The UCAS joint liaison committee is meeting this Friday and June will put this issue on the agenda and report back.

9. Correspondence - none
10. Next meeting April 20 and volunteer for reflection June
11. Benediction - Carolyn
12. Adjournment at 7:58 pm



Stephanie Dove, Past President



Al Goudie, Secretary

## REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

6.3 Wesley Council Report of the Intentional Interim Minister March 16, 2022

In-person worship resumed on February 27, 2022. Our numbers have been lower than they were before Christmas. We lost a bit of momentum having to step back to online only in January. It may also be that church attendance doesn't tend to have the same appeal post-Christmas, and the weather has been very cold and stormy.

We shared our Ash Wednesday observance with Sunset United and Lakeview United, at Sunset on March 2, 2022. Then, on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, we began a shared Tuesday evening sung prayer

gathering hosted at Lakeview using "Holden Evening Prayer" by Marty Haugen. The Wesley Choir turned out in force for the first evening. Our singing set things in motion beautifully. Last evening, March 16, 2022, I was the one asked to bring the message to the gathering, so though the choir attendance was lower, still we were there in strong connection with our sister congregations. In future weeks, Lee Stubbe will continue to attend as the pianist, while Lakeview's musician, Nathan, will lead the singing. Tricia Gerhard is bringing the message for the next two Tuesday evenings, and Carla Blakeley will lead the final one on April 5<sup>th</sup>, to finish our combined Lenten prayer.

With the changes made to our worship order for Lent, Sunday worship is closer to an hour and ten minutes instead of an hour and twenty minutes. Because we are back in person, I have been shaking hands at the door. It has been nearly noon before I am able to get onto the ZOOM after worship, and people have left the room by then. As long as we have in-person worship, I think it makes sense for me to greet at the door after worship and let the ZOOM time go. The people who were checking in on ZOOM are people I am in touch with at other times in the week, so there are other openings for conversation.

Things are still unsettled in the Church Office. Lee Stubbe has decided to step back from the Administrator position. The extra hours, from part time to full time were proving challenging for him to be able to do all his other work as well as he would like. The hiring process is underway again.

Others will report on the very successful P.I.E. Day drive through supper we had on Monday, March 14, 2022. Thank you very much to Lenore Bewcyk who took a small idea I had and made it grand. Thank you to all who volunteered to handle the ticket sales and the financial statements, the Affirm Committee for the pamphlet and rainbow napkins, and those who came out on P.I.E. Day to share in passing out the suppers.

I have been working with Tessa Whyte and Linda Paul to clarify what is needed to provide support and direction to the Pastoral Care Committee in relation to Emergency Pastoral Care. I have now drafted a statement of "Best Practices" which will be reviewed and then shared with the Council for approval at the April 2022 Council meeting.

Since Christmas, our children's ministry has been limited to what is shared in a children's time during Sunday worship. Hannah is preparing videos for each Sunday in Lent, relating the scripture story to an at home Lenten Garden that will become a small scene for acting out the Easter Sunday Garden experience.

Now that better weather is on the way, we will have more possibilities for activities together because we can make use of our outdoor property. We will be limited only by our imagination.

Cordially, Carolyn

## **6.8 Pastoral Care**

We hope now that the church is open to the congregation, we can see many of you again. The church and its people are very meaningful and we miss seeing you all in person.

We have not been able to visit as usual, in person, but maybe that will change. I really enjoyed seeing some of you over the Christmas season. Bobbie Nyhus with help from Val Stimpson arranged for our committee to package and deliver chocolate presents and cards to many of you over Christmas. There were also several ladies who came into the church to package these plus make cards for Blue Christmas and Wesley's Remembrance Christmas tree. Bobbie and some on the committee - Val Stimpson and Yvonne MacPherson and I helped to deliver the "presents." And especially Bobbie updated our list of church members whom we try to phone or visit.. She ran this list by some of us mentioned above.

I am happy to report that Fran Goudie and Stephanie Dove are working on trying to obtain new members for Council. I am thrilled to report that they have found someone who will co -chair Pastoral Care. I will continue to

attend Council Meetings and this young lady will run the committee. I am so grateful. I do want to point out that if we don't fill our Council positions, Wesley will have a hard time continuing to exist as a congregation. Please volunteer. I will not announce the chair until Fran and Stephanie do so, but I am so thrilled.  
-Linda Paul

## 8.2 Annual Self Assessment

I hope this finds you well and holding on to the promise of spring. I am writing with some further information regarding the self-assessment process mentioned in the Rambler this week, as well as a couple of invitations.

1. **Self-Assessments** - you might remember in days gone by the blessing of the triennial pastoral oversight visit that your former presbytery was responsible for. You will likely have been a visitor on behalf of the presbytery, or you hosted your presbytery colleagues for a time of conversation and sharing. In the new structure, *The Manual* requires a self-assessment process that essentially replaces the accountability of those oversight visits. The Committee on Community of Faith Support of the Regional Council has developed a checklist and guidelines to assist in this process. You can find all of these documents here: a fillable form (that you would need to then download and save to submit), a word document that you could print and pass around, and the background and instructions.

**\*\*\* if you have already sent me the name and email address of the chair of the governing body, they will also receive this information early next week. If you have not sent that to me, you are the only person in your community of faith to receive this! So, please pass it along!\*\*\***

As you continue your Lenten journey, I am mindful of the many, many shifts that have happened over the last 2 years. I hope that you are able to find ways to nurture your own spirituality in the midst of these shifts in a way that feels faith-filled and authentic. Please let me know if there is anything you might need by way of support.

Go gently,

Tracy Murton

Pastoral Relations Minister