

## Eastside United Church Leadership Team

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### Agenda for the Oct 8, 2025 Meeting (7:00 pm)

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**Attendees:** Heather Balfour, Janet Bjorndahl, Russell Mitchell-Walker, Leanne Sudom, Ron Brandow, Lori Latta, Teresa Strachan, Sam Baidoo, Delia Baidoo

**Regrets:** Bonnie Manz

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/473514227>

**Deep Spirituality**

**Bold Discipleship**

**Daring Justice**

(United Church of Canada Call, adopted Oct 2021)

<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/our-call-and-our-vision>

Agenda #	Discussion	Action
1.	<b><u>Call to Order – Janet</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Janet called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM</li></ul>	
2.	<b><u>Opening Devotion - Russell</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Russell read from <u>Grateful</u> by Diana Butler Bass and offered a prayer</li></ul>	
3.	<b><u>Acceptance of the Agenda</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ron/Teresa Carried</li></ul>	
4.	<b><u>Disclosure of any Conflict of Interest</u></b> Standing item to remind us of our responsibility under the United Church's <a href="#">Conflict of Interest Policy</a>	
5.	<b><u>Minutes of Sep 20, 2025, Leadership Team meeting (before workshop)</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Leanne/Heather Carried</li></ul>	

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6.	<p><b><u>Business arising from the Minutes</u></b></p> <p><b><u>6.1 Update on ADPA situation</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADPA has decided to choose another location for their daycare</li> <li>• They have a month-to-month lease and are no longer planning to pursue a partnership with the LSC</li> <li>• LSC is initiating another search for potential partners</li> </ul> <p><b><u>6.2 Defining our brand, inviting others</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to develop a small group to brainstorm and create some options on a brand / motto Does our current motto serve us well or is it time for something new? How do we make the best use of our brand?</li> <li>• Heather has someone in mind that she will ask</li> </ul>	

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7.	<p><b><u>New Business</u></b></p> <p><b><u>7.1 Collaboration Update</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St James is no longer able to pay 25% of Russell’s salary</li> <li>• St Andrew’s Lumsden has been approached to see if they can assist with Russell’s salary</li> <li>• Others in the collaboration will be approached to see if they can assist with Russell’s salary</li> <li>• Collaboration is trying to work towards the mindset that the ministers are for the collaboration and not for individual congregations</li> <li>• Janet is working on a draft document of a new entity in the collaboration</li> </ul> <p><b><u>7.2 Finances</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Janet shared that we have 1.4 months of reserves</li> <li>• <b>Motion:</b> To write off the \$667.00 (\$664 from airfare not reimbursed by National church and \$13 double charge for a meal) as noted by Janet Heather/ Delia Carried</li> <li>• Have more donations for Warm Welcome than has been spent thus far. Russell is aware of the amount.</li> <li>• Recommendation from Janet to have a TRC Outreach line in the budget – would continue to share with congregation the need for outreach throughout the year, but not ask for donations targeted to specific projects</li> <li>• Current projected deficit of \$446.00 for the end of 2025</li> </ul> <p><b><u>7.3 Budget</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet Up subscription (Film &amp; Faith, Community Dinner, Messy Church promotions) should come out of the Community Dinner grant</li> <li>• <b>Motion:</b> To create a TRC Outreach budget line of \$6000 for 2026 Heather/Sam Carried</li> </ul> <p><b><u>7.4 Stewardship</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minute for Mission has a focus on Stewardship</li> <li>• May need to email, will need to send letters to those who don’t receive email</li> </ul> <p><b><u>7.5 Memorial Donation Policy</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendation to change the wording of the policy to be to the amount of the memorial gift and not above and beyond the budget set</li> </ul>	<p>Janet and Russell will create a letter to send out</p> <p>Janet to create the wording of the motion and will bring it to a future meeting</p>
8.	<p><b><u>Reports</u></b></p> <p><b><u>8.1 Minister’s – Russell</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Threshold collaboration ministers had a team building event</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint services November 30 (St James) and December 14 (Heritage)</li> <li>• October 19 and November 9<sup>th</sup> someone will read the sermon rather than having a video</li> <li>• Schedule has been adjusted to reflect the actual time Roel has available</li> <li>• Regina Cluster will have a Palestinian land exercise and a city-wide event in spring 2026</li> <li>• Community dinner will have someone from Food for Thought speak</li> <li>• Climate Justice will provide a program during November 2<sup>nd</sup> LSC shared service &amp; potluck/ boardgame starting at 10:00. All groups who use the LSC will be invited.</li> <li>• Warm Welcome coalition- meeting every 2<sup>nd</sup> month. Russell needs a co-chair for this. They are exploring overlap with other agencies</li> <li>• Messy Church- Russell is working with others in the collaboration so that he can step back from his leadership role in this</li> <li>• Russell has to take 13 weeks leave at the start of his retirement and can return to his previous church as long as the role is significantly different. Russell is intending to retire December 31, 2026.</li> <li>• Russell will be away November 3- 7<sup>th</sup> and will not be at worship November 9<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Russell is considering offering 40 Days of Engagement on anti-racism- Wednesdays at 4:00</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.2 M&amp;P – Lori</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• M&amp;P met with Becca September 26<sup>th</sup> to review her schedule with each of the LSC employers</li> <li>• The website redevelopment is taking too much of Becca’s time. M&amp;P is recommending that this either be removed from her duties or compensation for the extra hours be provided</li> <li>• M&amp;P met with Russell and cautioned him regarding the amount of time worked in the evenings</li> <li>• <b>Motion:</b> To offer Becca 16 additional paid hours to build the new website Lori/Teresa Carried</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.3 Region – Ron</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October is clergy appreciation month</li> <li>• Knox Met- October 27- in person and live stream of Dr Deidre Nunan</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.4 Finance – see New Business</u></b></p> <p><b><u>8.5 Living Spirit Centre Council – Sam</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADPA had been the primary focus for them in the past few months</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East sanctuary is having an audio assessment for the east sanctuary and to be able to live stream and Zoom from the east sanctuary</li> <li>• Need to develop a security policy for the LSC building</li> <li>• A rainbow sidewalk will be created next year</li> <li>• A photo directory will be created</li> <li>• Request for Clare Parker Homes to use the kitchen and lower hall one day per week</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.6 Faith Formation – Leanne</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No new information to report</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.7 Gratitude team – Teresa</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No new information to report</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.8 Congregational Care – Delia</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No new information to report</li> <li>• Appreciate Hazel joining the congregational care team</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.9 Climate Justice Committee – Bonny</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faithful Footprints changed their criteria and Eastside is no longer eligible</li> <li>• Other grants will be explored</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.10 Chair – Janet</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No additional information to what has already been shared</li> </ul>	
9.	<p><b><u>Forward Looking</u></b> Nothing additional</p>	
10.	<p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b> Wed Nov 12 at 7:00 pm</p>	
11.	<p><b><u>Closing Prayer – Russell</u></b></p>	
12.	<p><b><u>Adjournment</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion to adjourn Ron/Teresa</li> </ul>	

