

Eastside United Church Leadership Team

Minutes of the January 8, 2025 Meeting

Attendees: Janet Bjorndahl (Chair), Ron Brandow, Russell Mitchell-Walker, Bonny Manz, Lori Latta, Jim Fallows, Trina Fallows, Sam Baidoo, Delia Baidoo, Leanne Sudom

Regrets: Doug Scheurwater

Agenda #	Discussion	Action
1.	Call to Order – Janet Called to order at 7:03	
2.	Opening Devotion/Prayer - Russell	
3.	Acceptance of the Agenda <i>Moved by Lori, 2nd by Leanne. Carried.</i>	
4.	Disclosure of any Conflict of Interest Standing item to remind us of our responsibility under the United Church’s Conflict of Interest Policy	
5.	Minutes of the January 8, 2025, Leadership Team meeting <i>Moved by Jim, 2nd by Ron. Carried.</i>	
6.	<p>Business arising from the Minutes</p> <p>6.1 Compensation for pianist and technical support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leanne spoke to BoL and they will discuss at their next council meeting. The rate they pay for Josh is higher as he is considered a professional. • Discussion regarding Josh and Michelle is to be carried to next meeting. <p>6.2 Outreach projects for 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lenten project is RNOM’s Mother & Baby Welcome Bag • PIE Day supporting Lulu’s lodge • ES’s PIE day is on March 16th 	<p>Josh’s rate will need to be obtained</p>

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	<p>7.7 Chair for LSC Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's ES's turn to provide a Chair for the LSCC. Sam will talk to Donna to see if perhaps they could Co-chair the committee. 	Sam to follow up with Donna
8.	<p>Reports</p> <p>8.1 Minister's – Russell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attached to minutes <p>8.2 M&P – Lori</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a new member on the committee, Lana Brandow. The staff have been met with separately. They are all very busy and there are some concerns on burn-out. <p>8.3 Region – Ron</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2025 UC Manual is available for download Some new hymns have been written for the 100th Anniversary A nominations committee is looking for people to sit on the Regional Council A Green Spirit Chaplaincy has been formed to work with the rural communities A Regional meeting will be held online for those from other than Saskatoon <p>8.4 Finance – Jim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BoL extinguished its debt to LSC 69 givers were the main supporters of ES in 2024 <p>8.5 Living Spirit Centre Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have no inclusive washrooms in the basement Suggested there be change tables in the Men's room A request being made with the City for a bus stop by the church A Photo Directory is going to be done once BoL have their new pastor <p>8.6 Faith Formation – Leanne</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Games Day had a small turnout but those that attended had fun PIE Day planning continues 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Easter Egg Hunt and a Small Business Fair will be held on April 12 April's Community Dinner and Messy Church will be combined as one event <p>8.7 Gratitude team – Trina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teresa would like more of the members to attend their committee meetings The letter to go with the Tax Receipts has been completed <p>8.8 Congregational Care – Delia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee members have been away but the rest have taken over or had other members of the congregation do the greeting in the Sunday service They would like some more committee members They contact 16 to 20 people a month <p>8.9 Climate Justice Committee – Bonny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A potluck and film were done after the last joint service with BoL. It was well attended with a lot of discussion. A survey letter was sent out to those that had responded to the survey on solar panels done over a year ago with financial offers and included their names. The response was good, with all but one response returned with either the same amount as originally offered or additional funds. A letter will be sent to both congregations very soon. <p>8.10 Chair – Janet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report attached 	
9.	<p>Forward Looking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing additional 	
10.	<p>Next Meeting April 7th, 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Program AGM: May 25th during the service</p>	<p>Reports to Becca by May 1st.</p>
11.	<p>Closing Prayer Russell</p>	
9.	<p>Adjournment Leanne moved to adjourn at 9:13</p>	

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Eastside United Church
Leadership Team Minister's Report
Russell Mitchell-Walker

Regina Cluster & Collaborative Ministry

Regina and Area Cluster

Cluster is working toward 100th Anniversary of the UCC celebration. This will include an area worship June 8 possibly at Lumsden outside in a large tent; a hymn singalong at the bandstand in Wascana on June 15, and maybe a production of the UCC Anniversary play, 'Maybe One?' June 10.

There has also been a development with the Moderator Carmen Lansdowne coming to the Luther Lectures on Sept 29 (she will be past moderator by then). We are looking at having a cluster service Sept 28 with her; and possibly a Flourishing Communities workshop on the Saturday.

Strong Towns – In spite of having difficulty getting a meeting together the co-chairs are still committed to making it and an event happen.

Collab – heritage and St. James are worshipping together, taking turns in each others spaces starting in March through to Easter. The steering committee and the Entity sub committee need to meet. The steering cttee chair is to be setting a meeting date this week and we need to start evaluating the collaboration. We have a Joint service March 30 with Eastside Hosting. This will include a pot-luck. We will have a Lenten candle extinguishing liturgy on the environment, as well as a candle lighting until Easter, celebrating the light of God in Christ during Lent.

Parish Ministry/Outreach

Food for Thought Needs more donations. I have had to buy meals every week as there are no takers for making meals. We have run to the end of the funds donated. Have been getting a larger group as a new staff sends people in, many then return.

INI Café Live is on hiatus for now, while ICF looks for a program staff person.

LSC Climate Justice Reserve 107 pot luck and movie was very well received. Good turnout and discussion. Very engaged.

The Community Dinner This week, Black History Month with ADPA person speaking, Isabel Npankang.

The Warm Welcome Coalition supporting Hawk Principle Co-op accessing Trinity Lutheran space (it has been purchased by the Sikh community).

Working with the City through David Froh to have Houselessness declared a crisis. The City is working to do this collaboratively with other municipalities.

Pastoral Care

Keeping tabs on people who have had surgery. Following up with people grieving.

Been supporting Dima, a newcomer to Eastside, who's husband is a refugee claimant stuck in Switzerland. He came to us through the Pink Pot Luck

Gratitude Team

Need more members. Have written a letter of gratitude to go in with the receipts

Faith Formation

Film and Faith had 5 in January.

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Books 15 are participating in new book; Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul about Celtic Wisdom.

Messy Church continues once a month on the second Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 Three families coming regularly, all Eastside connected.

Courageous Faith continuing Rethinking Children and Youth Ministry with 4-5 attending

Continuing Education & Wider Church

Inhabit April 23-28 in Chicago; March 1 early bird deadline, prices go up.

LSC/MAP

There is a sub committee of LSC working with ADPA the African Descent Professional Association (UCAS) on their proposed a childcare project and the implications of our space. We are working toward switching the storage rooms – the former Munch office, where the Quilters have taken over, and use it for the tables, ADPA chairs, and drums etc. This will free up space in the ADPA office that has these items stored in it.

We are hosting the Pancake Supper and there are sign up sheets for food and volunteers.

There will be a time of transition for Bread of Life with Stewart's retirement, effective the end of this month. Pastor's Larry and Jerry will fill in until Easter and then there will be an Interim or Vice pastor. A search committee should be formed after the Council meets with the Bishop. There will need to be an ES rep on the search committee. The challenge is that they are presently without a chair of the Council, unless one is found at their AGM March 9. I will be meeting with Pastor's Larry and Jerry to talk with them about what might be needed for the church (LSC) specifically and how to be the church these days in general.

Leadership Team Chair's Report

Janet Bjorndahl

Feb 2025

Collaborative Ministry

The Steering Committee has not yet met this year.

St James has given us a heads up that they are projecting a deficit (using worst case scenario budgeting) if they continue with the current financial arrangement to pay 25% of Russell's salary. They are committed to paying it until the end of June, but aren't sure if they can continue the same level of commitment after then.

Update on Becca's short-term disability

The short-term disability payment covered all 6 weeks (I had anticipated only 4 weeks). Therefore, we got about \$1200 more than expected.