

Wesley United Church
Council Meeting by Zoom
June 21, 2022 8:00 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
	Linda Paul	Pastoral Care Division Coordinator
	Tessa Whyte	Ministry & Personnel Division Coordinator
		Worship Division Coordinator
	Carolyn Woodall	Intentional Interim Minister
	Kent Stewart	Transition Team Representative
R	Linda Gunningham	Regional Council Representative
	June Blau	Regional Council Representative
	Wayne Clarke	President-elect
	Lenore Bewcyk	Vice-President-Elect

R = Regrets P = Partial

1. Call to order

Past President Stephanie Dove called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm.

2. Opening reflection – Kent

3. Approval of agenda

Motion 2022-38: That the agenda be approved as circulated. M/S Linda Paul/Kent Stewart – carried.

4. Approval of minutes from May 25, 2022 Council meeting

Motion 2022-39: That the minutes of the meeting of May 25, 2022 be adopted. M/S Al Goudie/June Blau – carried.

5. Transition Team report. Kent verbally reported that the Transition Team has been assessing the information from the congregational meeting. The team is now focusing on a number of options including amalgamation and examples of good and bad processes. The team is working with Kindred Works. They will continue throughout the summer as much as possible.

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 2022-40: That the Consent Agenda be approved with the Minister's Report, Administration and Finance and Ministry and Personnel Committee reports removed. M/S Jim Chernick/Frances Goudie – carried.

Reports removed from the Consent Agenda:

Minister's report. Carolyn read the attached report.

Administration and Finance.

June mentioned a UCAS situation. It occurred to her following the gatherings of the congregation we had not included consideration of our partner UCAS. Christine is oblivious to the notion that Wesley could do anything from selling the building to carrying on as usual. Now they are aware of the uncertainty. They have money for retrofits which has to be used within a year or lose the money. Kent responded that now you have included Christine in the conversation and we owe that to them. Who should be the communicator with UCAS? June is fine with continuing to communicate with UCAS.

June referred to the RMIS Consulting report on roof repairs which was circulated. She said that Admin & Finance are not in a position to recommend anything other than proceeding with the immediate repairs that were identified and approved.

Kent questioned the report of the condition of the previous repair that perhaps was not done properly. June said that is a particularly vulnerable section that perhaps requires repeated repair.

June replied that we don't know. Darwin is aware and no doubt will raise that with Action Roofing.

Carolyn made several comments:

Summary of Carolyn's Comments at the June 2022 Wesley Church Council meeting
The Engineers' report on the state of the roof, commissioned by Church Council, and delivered to the Admin and Finance division, then distributed to Council members, the Transition team, and the Trustees was shocking to all of us. For the Transition Team, it acts as an accelerant, as COVID has done. The direction of the Transition Team's work has not shifted with this information. It may shorten our timelines.

The work of the Transition Team is to research and examine the current structures and situation of the Community of Faith (CoF), and to engage and consult with the CoF and the wider church in relation to the goals set by the CoF. When during such research, examination, and consultation specific information appears that requires adjustment of those goals, that adjusting is important to pursue, while communicating the shift to the CoF and providing opportunities for feedback and direction from the CoF. This we did

in our May consultations. What we heard in those gatherings is that, given our current congregational demographic profile, amalgamation may be a viable option for continuance of the CoF. Opinions differed as to whether that is a short-term or medium-term goal. Given the roof report, the shorter term seems necessary. However, it is not the work of the Transition Team to undertake leadership in the doing of whatever repairs to the roof are necessary in the short-term.

What the Transition Team is doing right now and through the summer, is gathering specific information from places in the western Regions where successful amalgamations were completed recently or are underway. We have made an initial contact with KindredWorks.ca which is The United Church of Canada entity that is helping churches across the country to reimagine building use. They have expertise in negotiating necessary zoning changes with municipalities. We expect to hear back from them mid to late July about an information session as early as August, to which the Transition Team could invite the Church Council and Admin and Finance. At such a meeting, the Kindred Works staff will lay out for us what they do, and from the initial information I have already shared with them, they may be able to offer us specifics related to our situation.

In the meantime, it is the task of Admin and Finance to offer to Council options for mitigating any further damage to the building. Though it is unlikely that we will find resources to completely renew the roof if it is to cost what is suggested in the report, still it is required that critical short-term repairs be undertaken to allow a window of time for further long-term solutions to be found. Hopefully, the Property Committee can engage with the Engineering firm for some direction as to what are the most critical and strategic repairs for right now.

A question came during the latest Transition Team meeting on Monday, June 20th, so I contacted Rev. Annette Taylor, Convenor of the Regional Property Commission, on Tuesday. The question: were there monies available at the Regional Council level from which it might be possible to secure a loan to repair the roof, if not for a longer viable time for the Wesley CoF in the building, then at least for a more advantageous sale (as in the Whitmore Park situation with Wascana Presbytery)?

Rev. Annette shared three things. First, when repairs to church property will be equal to 20% or more than the annual budget (being the amount the annual assessment is based on) the CoF must inform the Regional Property Commission and requires their permission to proceed. That was news to me. Second, whether the whole church is well served by the expenditure of monies for such repair is in these days a central consideration of the Property Commission. And third, the Regional Council does not have money available for loans of such size anymore.

The trustees have to be included in any conversation about major repairs.

Darwin Roske and Gordon Beck from the Property Committee are investigating the quoted repair costs in the RMIS report. They will be asking someone to assess what critical repairs are needed and at what cost. There is a possibility of tendering the work to seven roofing companies to establish the true cost. It is important that we have a specific plan for precisely what we want done so that we can compare the tenders equitably.

Al said that the motion from last month's Council meeting to proceed with critical repairs still stands and that work should proceed as soon as Action Roofing can get to it. There was discussion about whether permission is required from the Regional Property Commission. Al's interpretation of the 2022 expense budget is that this work (approximately \$50,000) is below the 20% threshold and that permission is not required.

Ministry & Personnel.

Tessa said that Carolyn wants to be sure that her continuing education money can be carried over from 2022 to 2023. Carolyn was thinking about the pastoral year ending in August 2022. Al and June commented that the Wesley budget is the calendar year, not the pastoral year so there is no need to do anything at this time. If the continuing education money is not all spent by the end of 2022 then Carolyn can request a carryover when Council develops the 2023 budget at the end of this year.

7. Old Business

7.1 UCAS renovations. Minor renovations are being considered.

7.2 Interchurch Sandwich Project. Al reported that Glenn Schmuland, Accounting Convenor asked for directions as to where the funds for the Sandwich Project should come from.

Motion 2022-41: That the cost of the Interchurch Sandwich Project come from the Social Justice budget for donations. M/S Al Goudie/Kent Stewart – carried.

7.3 Letter from/to Sunset UC Board. Al replied to Christa Eidsness and received a positive reply. The Wesley team of Carolyn, Glenn Schmuland, Wayne Clarke and Lenore Bewcyk will be meeting with the Sunset team this Thursday at Wesley. An agenda has been developed and Carolyn will chair the meeting.

7.4 Reply to letter from Tina Blair. Al read Tina's reply.

7.5 Recruitment of a new Youth coordinator. Fran reported that this was discussed at the CE meeting on June 1. It's a chicken and egg problem. It is not clear what a youth coordinator would do. We are not sure if we will have youth returning. One possibility is to share a Youth Coordinator with another congregation. The CE committee didn't see any point moving ahead with hiring a Youth Coordinator at this point. They will do a survey in August to see if people will be bringing their children to church. They will be organizing messy church in the fall to see if that helps young families make connection.

Carolyn commented that one of the Sunset team is their youth worker and they will be talking about possibly working with us.

8. June strategy and visioning (new business)

8.1 Turn in your Red Organizational Manual by the end of June to the church office for updating.

8.2 Motion re change of signing authorities

Motion 2022-42: That the President, Wayne Clarke, Past President, Stephanie Dove, Vice President, Lenore Bewcyk, Treasurer, Jim Chernick, Secretary, Al Goudie, Administration and Finance Coordinator, June Blau and Accounting Convenor, Glenn Schmuland shall have signing authority, any two thereof. Signing authority is to be removed for Dan Holbrow and Laura Thomson.
M/S Al Goudie/Linda Paul – carried

8.3 Installation of the new Council. Al had a conversation with Carolyn McBean who recommended that we resume a past tradition at Wesley of having an installation of the new Council. Carolyn suggested that she could preside over the installation at church on the Sunday following the Labour Day weekend or the Sunday after that.

8.4 Thank you to retiring Council member(s). Linda Paul received a hearty thank you and round of applause for her many years on Council.

9. Correspondence.

9.1 A Note from Stewardship June 2022 – attached.

June Blau announced that we received a gift from the estate of Janet Smith, long time past member.

10. Next meeting September 21, 7:00 pm by Zoom or in person to be determined.
Volunteer for reflection - Fran

11. Benediction - Carolyn

12. Adjournment at 9:52 pm



Stephanie Dove, Past President



Al Goudie, Secretary

Reports and Correspondence

6.3 Minister's Report

Intentional Interim Minister Report to Church Council June 21, 2022

During this past month, I have been part of many meetings, being:

Worship Committee, Christian Education Committee, Admin & Finance, the final House Gathering, three Transition Team meetings, and the Annual Congregational Program Meeting, as well as a Regional Celebration of Ministry (Ordination), a farewell event for a colleague, the ZOOM event for Retirees, plus weekly meetings of ministry personnel hosted by the Regional Pastoral Relations Minister, the gathering of my Interim Ministry Network peer support group, and a gathering of the United Church Intentional Interim Ministers.

In addition to the above, I have attended weekly book study sessions, prayer meetings, and coffee gatherings.

I attended the Men's Club BBQ, and Bonnie Morton's retirement party, both at Wesley.

I participated in the Traditional Feast hosted by RNOM where I brought greetings from the congregation.

And, I joined the congregational group in the PRIDE Parade, after which I joined ministry colleagues in offering "glitter blessings" to the public in attendance in the park.

As well, I was able to take in some of the plenary sessions of the recent STU/St. Andrew's College Conference online. The subject of the Conference was online ministry and trauma informed ministry.

6.4 Christian Education

Christian Education Committee

Meeting June 1, 2022 in Kitchen Lounge

1. In attendance: Fran Goudie, Maureen Kolot, Kendra Patton, Rev. Carolyn Woodall, Barb Schmuland

Carolyn started us off with a meditation and prayer.

2. Minutes of the May 4 meeting were distributed.

3. Anti-racism action planned by Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and Prairie to Pine Regional Councils – Paula Mills and Carolyn McBean from our COF will take part in this book study on Wait-is this racist? during June.

4. Youth Coordinator – this is a chicken or egg problem. We still are not clear on what we would expect a Youth Coordinator to do given that we have no families with young children actively involved. There may be an opportunity to 'share' a Youth Coordinator currently working for another congregation.

No action on this now.

5. Messy Church – we had discussed this possibility at the last meeting. The feeling is this program would give us a chance to have families connect with each other and the Wesley COF again. It would involve craft centres and volunteers, worship conducted by Carolyn, and a simple supper prepared by volunteers, perhaps the House Group of the month. Families could come, or children could come with

a grandparent or another adult, but children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Messy Church would be 2 hours once a month.

Start time – September. Carolyn will prepare announcements and a poster this month. Could be advertised to UCAS, on Facebook, posters and church sign, recreation associations.

Families would be asked to RSVP so we can plan food and allow for individual needs.

6. University Program – Carolyn prepared a letter to go out to the COF of Living Skies Regional Council offering a welcome to students coming to Regina to further their education. The letter notes that Wesley is the closest United Church COF to the University and describes the proposed program which includes food! Students are invited to contact Barb Schmuland with their contact information if they are interested. The letter will go out in June.

Fran undertook to contact the U of R Students Union to try and arrange a table during Welcome Week when other groups set up tables so that we can meet the students who have contacted us, and let other students know about the church. (I was directed to marketing@ursu.ca. I sent an email and received an email promising more information next week.)

Barb Schmuland, Fran Goudie, Maureen Kolot and Kendra indicated they would support the program. Others will be needed, and bakers for food care packages.

7. Sunday School coordinator – Barb Schmuland is willing to be Sunday School coordinator. Question is will there be children attending in the Fall or a need for someone in the Nursery. A program that might attract children? Perhaps a survey in August?

8. Discussion re ideas for an adult series. Carolyn suggested a November evening focusing on Veterans would be appropriate. One possibility is the project to build little houses for Vets. - how about a car repair information night for women, or information about electric or hybrid cars for men and women. - Elaina St.

Ongé and Naomi Beingessner had prepared a series on Green Parenting that got stopped in the middle. Could this be offered. - the anti-racism action

study on the Wait- is this racist?

9. Carolyn is on holiday after June 19 and will be back August 9.

10. Next meeting of CE – August 11 at 7 pm at the church.

6.5 Administration and Finance

*** NOTES ***

Tue., 14 JUN, 2022 * 5:00 PM *** ZOOM*****

1. CALL TO ORDER:

a. **Attending:** Darwin, Linda, Lenore, Carolyn, June (regrets – Glenn)

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: as circulated, by agreement.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (May. 11, 2022)

a. **Approval:** as circulated, by agreement.

4. REPORTS

- a. **FINANCE & INVESTMENTS:** (Chernick, Schmuland)
 - i. **Financials:** May financials circulated by email
 - b. **PROPERTY & SERVICE:** (Roske)
 - i. **Rentals:** iDiscover last day June 29th; yoga group due a refund for unused space; Line Dancers done till fall; Autism Resource Centre Camp moving in June 23, training weekend June 25/6, camp runs July 4-Aug. 18th; TOPS moving from using Rm 105 to only Auditorium for summer; Singing Grannies Thu. Afternoons, Rm 105; AA/Al-Anon inquiring return in fall; UCAS – times & space seem to have been sorted between Jacque & UCAS.
 - ii. **Other:** Jonathon on vacation in July; Sasktel completed installation of **fibreoptic internet**, upgrade to Sasktel Select wifi; **sound system issues** being dealt with; decided to leave consultation on sound system, including hearing assist system, till fall; Morley Crowle able to get the **overhead projector** functioning; unable to correct issues with video displays yet; continuing with **conversion of lights** to LED; Action Roofing has Wesley's **roof repairs** on their 'to do' list – no date, **RMIS Consultant Report** needs to be considered by Council/Congregation along with the other conversations about our future; **UCAS** – we have not received a copy of their Insurance renewal (due May 28); Darwin met with Christine, Kent regarding retrofit, no distinct plan in place, UCAS seemed to think they were free to move stuff from Library to 'empty' rooms in Church, advised not so; wanted to get 'something' done on retrofit before June 15th; **window replacement** – only a few originals remain, on upper auditorium/chapel... proposed we defer until an issue (?leak) develops.
 - c. **STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION:** (Gunningham) - crafting message for Announcements.
 - d. **REVENUE/ADMIN CONVENOR:** (Blau) nothing to report.
5. **NEXT MEETING:**
- a. *Thu., Sept. 8, 2022 – 5:00 pm, ZOOM*
6. **ADJOURNMENT:** by agreement.

6.6 Ministry and Personnel

M&P Report to Council, June 2022

M&P recommends that any monies remaining in the minister's Continuing Education account at the end of December 2022 be carried over to 2023.

Jon will be on vacation July 4 to July 22. Jacque will be on vacation July 11 to July 19. We will arrange for half-time office coverage from July 11 to 19.

Tessa Whyte

9.1

A Note from Stewardship June 2022

Yes, it's time for a quick message from your Stewardship Committee. For the past couple of years I've started by mentioning the uncertainty we have all been experiencing due to Covid and all the ways it has disrupted our lives and our church community. We are now faced with another kind of uncertainty as we ponder the future of our congregation. Many of you took part in the gatherings arranged by the Transition Team and were part of the conversations that looked at our options for the future.

No decisions have been made, but we do know that some kind of change is inevitable. Living with change is what humans do and the church is no exception. No matter what course we choose, your financial support is still a necessity. In the short term, we are entering summer and tri-church, a time when givings usually decrease. If you use envelopes and attend worship with our tri-church partners, you can put your offering on the plate as usual and it will find its way to Wesley. E-transfer and dropping a cheque in the church mailbox are other options.

Whether we continue longer on our own, enter into an amalgamation or find some entirely different way to be the church, there is one thing to remember: whatever path we choose, we are still the church, the hands and feet of Christ in the world. To do that work we need you to keep on supporting Wesley. Even in this time of uncertainty you are not throwing good money after bad. Your gifts will still be used for the mission of our church even if we are moving into a new way of being that church.

We are grateful to all of you who have continued your support of Wesley and pray that you will continue to do so. It means so much to know that we still have a place in the hearts and minds of our church family.