

JAT UPDATE October 20, 2023
from Joint Amalgamation Team (JAT), South Regina United Community
(Wesley and Sunset United communities working toward amalgamation)

Here's an update from our *Joint Amalgamation Team*
after meeting #9 held on October 18.

Happening in October:

- We are keen to hear **your feedback** after our paper mail-out of *Memorandum of Understanding #1*, in which we shared our plans and an update. So far several people have said thank-you for JAT's work and have told us the communication was clear. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or other feedback.
- **Property sharing and dispersal** work is continuing. There will be a garage sale on Oct 27 and 28 at 3913 Hillsdale. Any of us are welcome to help out or to put items in that sale. See the newsletter announcements for more information.
- We will finish all the **inventories** of furniture, materials and other assets from both buildings. This has been a huge task for us and it's been a learning experience!
One concept that all of us are getting used to is the fact that significant items don't "belong" to either Sunset or Wesley communities. Congregations hold those items in trust for the United Church of Canada and when an amalgamation occurs, surplus items are to be offered at no charge to other UCC communities. But we do have the autonomy to sell smaller items: e.g., for a garage or rummage sale fundraiser.

Plans for November:

- We thank Trina Hodgson and Christa Eidsness for planning a **transition workshop** for us soon - with the purpose of acknowledging the grief that is part of this journey. Watch the announcements for more information.
- JAT will focus on exploring a new **governance structure** at our November meeting. We then plan to host a workshop for the Wesley Council and Sunset Board to get their input in shaping that new structure for our amalgamated church, in the year to come.
- We hope to finish the work sorting out what **house groups** do. The background on this is that each of our communities used that label to refer to different tasks and time commitments for groups.
We have changed the previous house group label at 177 Sunset to become "Worship Support Team". Thank you to the current coordinator Bev Hui. Those teams help only with worship services.
The gap left was how to organize our hosting of social events, such as funeral gatherings or special events where food might be served. At our October 18 meeting, JAT hit upon a new name "Hospitality Team" and we'll work with our community to finish a description of tasks and organizing approach for this team.
Why change the name, you ask?! Leaving old labels behind helps us all to shape a common future and reduce confusion about what we used to do versus what we do now.

JAT thanks you for your feedback and your support so far. In the time leading up to Christmas, we hope to focus mainly on settling into our worship and work together and to continue to get to know new people in our faith community.

PLEASE help us with communications: please remind each other there are regular online newsletters and to check your church bulletin board for posters.

Joint Amalgamation Team

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