

**JAT UPDATE**  
**March 1, 2024**  
**from Joint Amalgamation Team (JAT), South Regina United Community**  
**(Wesley and Sunset United communities working toward amalgamation)**

**JAT met three times in February:**

- February 16: We had an online meeting with Rev. Jordan Cantwell from Saskatoon. She is one of six national church Growth Animators with the goal to assist faith communities grow their impact. This is not a focus on increasing the number of attendees or financial supporters, but rather about the growth of discipleship, energy, joy, spirituality... these in turn may organically result in growth of numbers.  
Key messages from Jordan:
  - Focus most on the “why” of our community, and later on the “how” and the “what”. We recognize we have not taken much time yet to follow this advice; in fact, we have been preoccupied with “how” and “what”!
  - Focus also on community building - intentionally get to know newcomers and try to avoid the understandable tendency to want to spend most time with people we already know. If you know someone who is feeling disconnected or has chosen to stop participating, reach out; be a good listener; let them know they are welcome.
- February 21 and 28: JAT had two informal meetings simply to spend more time socializing to strengthen our connections. We recognized our own team had put almost all our focus on logistical tasks for the past 11 months, and so we intentionally set those tasks aside for a time.

**What's next?**

- Be sure to read the results of our January survey and look at the draft governance structure we're presenting for discussion. Both are in the materials provided for both Wesley and Sunset's Annual General Meetings in March. At those meetings, you may also discuss the JAT motion to proceed toward amalgamation (this is not yet a motion to finalize). After that, JAT will resume our work to facilitate our journey.
- We plan to continue our learning series at upcoming congregational meetings, dates still to be set. The first in this series was the workshop on transitions and grieving last November. The January survey results provided guidance for us in the topics to pursue in group discussions.

**We invite you to participate in our church life.**

- We have passed on comments from our January survey to either the **Worship Support Teams** coordinator Bev Hui or other committees as relevant.
- For our community life outside of worship services, a plan and list of **Hospitality Volunteers** has taken shape.
- Please phone in or sign up at the office at 177 Sunset Drive if you'd like to be a volunteer, or to learn more about Worship Support Teams. Our weekly e-newsletter is also a great source of current information!

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

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**Joint Amalgamation Team**

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