

LLWL Forum - Highlights from the November 23, 2021 Zoom Meeting:

Attending: Rev. Cheryl McMurray, Paul Kneebone, Kathleen Whyte, Karen Bates, Nancy Payne, Rev. David Timpson, Rev. Cathy Gradante

Regrets: Carol O'Neill

- Election of Chair and Secretary -
(It was moved by Kathleen Whyte, 2nd by Cheryl McMurray that **Cathy Gradante** be elected as chair of the Forum. Carried. It was moved by Cheryl McMurray, seconded by Nancy Payne that **Paul Kneebone** be elected as secretary. Carried.)
- We will be updating the LLWL page on the ECORC website to offer a package of info to congregations that includes - How to welcome an LLWL, an up-to-date fee schedule and mileage rate, along with the current list of available LLWLs.
(Nancy Payne will be rewriting this information for us.)
- We would like to offer training/support/gatherings for LLWLs twice a year - in spring and fall and are looking for ideas/suggestions of what they would be interested in learning. This will be brought up at your next Network gathering.
- We are also looking for "testimonials" from LLWLs that can be used as part of our recruitment plan. Nancy has offered to put your stories into a document that can be shared on the website and with congregations. A poster will also be done up that can be shared with faith communities.
- Changes to the LLWL Handbook/Policy - a number of questions have arisen about current policy and so we will be working through the handbook to make recommendations to the Covenant Support Team about any changes we would like to see. To that end, Cheryl has offered to explore the LLWL policies in the other regions across the country to assist in our discernment.

Next Steps for the January Meeting:

- We will be reviewing the interview process/questions for LLWLs and for those entering the training program
- We will be setting up a schedule for interviewing new LLWLs in early February.
- Renewal packages will be sent out in March with interviews/gatherings scheduled for later in the spring. (Renewals will continue to be approved by ECORC at its fall meeting in that same given year)
- Updates for the website will be approved and a process set up for keeping everyone informed of our work going forward.
- Receive training suggestions from Network and begin planning for future educational opportunities
- Review of the current LLWL handbook for ECORC, as well as the National handbook from the UCC.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 12th at 7pm on Zoom

Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions/concerns.

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I look forward to working with all of you and ensuring that you are supported and encouraged in your worship leadership. The Forum is excited about doing this work and we pray that God continues to fill you with hope, peace, joy and love!

Advent Blessings,
Cathy Gradante - Chair