

MINUTES for LLWL Forum Meeting – Thursday, June 27th, 2024 – 7pm on Zoom

Started: 7:00pm

Ended: 7:45pm

Attending: Cathy G., Cheryl Mc., Paul K., Nancy P., Susan P., Karen B., Lisa N.

Regrets: None

Welcome – Cathy. Included an acknowledgement of Karen's recent loss of her husband – and our prayers & concern continue for her.

Opening Prayer – Cathy

Minutes of the April Meeting: Motion to approve by Paul, seconded by Susan Pleasance.

Business Arising: if any. None that was discussed.

LLWL Network – update from last gathering, if any. None, as minutes were previously distributed to all LLWLs, students, Darren, Karen Wilson, Bill Sheaves.

New Business:

- Spring Learning Event – May 4th at Trinity United, Cobourg – comments?
Paul mentioned feedback on the comments made at the end of the session re. number of pulpit supply Sundays and home Coff connections, which was brought up at the last LLWL Network meeting.
- Fall Learning Event – date? Saturday, Oct. 26th. Either in Cobourg (Trinity UC) or Bridgenorth UC.
- LLWL Interviews – 9 triennial interviews completed – discussion and recommendations. All good. These will be tabled for the next 3-year renewal cycle that will be in 2025. At this Fall's ECORC meeting, Paul suggested that we acknowledge the 3 LLWLs retiring this year. As well, we keep in mind doing the same for Mary Kay (age 80) who will be retiring in 2025, after 50 years as a LLWL!
- Barbara Warden: once she provides 1 piece of documentation, Paul will inform Cathy, then we will arrange her final interview. If all goes well, she will be added to the approved LLWL list before the ECORC fall meeting.
- LLWL Handbook – amendment to include the following:

LLWLs are encouraged to develop a strong relationship with the minister of their home community of faith for mutual support, theological and professional discussions, and more. In churches where there is no minister, or where an LLWL might be in a position that makes such a relationship difficult (as a member of the Ministry and Personnel committee, a search committee, etc.), or if the minister is otherwise not available for this relationship, the LLWL should contact the Chair of LLWL Forum.

Paul will now bring this amendment to the next Covenant Support Team meeting in September. Then, after final approval by Council of Elders– Paul will forward to Karen Wilson for updated ECORC website inclusion.

- Report from Covenant Support Team – Cheryl. Mary Kay was given permission by ECORC to preach more than 5 out of 8 consecutive Sundays during Rodney Smith-Merkley's upcoming sabbatical. Neither LLWL Forum nor Covenant Support Team were consulted during this discussion. It was brought up by Cheryl at the June Covenant Support Team meeting. CST confirmed that the existing policy (only 5 out of 8 consecutive Sundays) does also apply to sabbaticals. A letter was subsequently sent to Mary by Darren stating the same, so we all continue to adhere to the current LLWL policy in all circumstances.

Other business – if any. Tonight is Cheryl's last meeting with us. She expressed her thanks to all the Forum and especially Cathy. We all wished her well and thanked her for her dedicated work on our behalf over the last 3 years. Cathy wished us all well --- and have a terrific summer!

Next Meeting – TBD – 7pm on Zoom. Sept. 19th. [Paul will be absent, so someone else will have to take minutes.]