

Region 15  
Division of Ministry Resources  
Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

This meeting of the newly-configured Division of Ministry Resources met via ZOOM technology. Chairperson Anne Cameron welcomed everyone, noting that this is the first meeting with Chairs of Faith Story and Community Covenant Committee, Future Directions Committee and Retiree Support Committee. Special welcome therefore to Heather Fraser, Carol Smith and Ruth Gamble. This is a special meeting in order to connect, to have a conversation and to hear from one another what is happening with our committees. Minutes of today's meeting and the previous meeting of the Division of May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 will be brought to the next meeting in September for approval.

Anne Cameron opened the meeting by reading from Everyday Psalms by James Taylor.

All committees were represented and quorum established. Those in attendance were Anne Cameron, David Hewitt, Faith March-MacCuish, Nan Corrigan, John Moses, Tom Woods, Carol Smith, K. Ruth Gamble and Heather Fraser.

It was agreed that the agenda as circulated by email would be followed.

Clarification was sought re this Division's expectations regarding confidentiality. This was discussed and it was stated that things we don't wish to lose sight of will be minuted and we are asked to name those items that we would deem confidential. We were reminded that a motion to "move in camera" could be made if it is felt that particular attention to confidentiality is warranted.

Each of the Committees were asked to share what is happening in the committees and reflect on how we all fit and work together and where to go from here.

a. Licensing Committee

John Moses reported on behalf of Licensing. He stated that some applications for LLWL are coming in. The committee needs to continue arranging interviews. Recently sacramental and marriage privileges were extended to Rick Gunn while appointed to a pastoral charge. John feels his committee is now well staffed. One frustration has been the lack of response from the committee to communication.

b. Pastoral Relations Committee

Tom Woods reported on behalf of Pastoral Relations. The committee has been meeting as Pastoral Relations for the past 6 months, with Pastoral Relations items prior to that time being dealt with by the Division itself. Tom feels the committee is functioning well and characterized their work as "Bellhops for David's luggage". That is, the work of the committee is understood to be primarily consideration of appointments and calls as brought to the committee by staff person, David Hewitt. Tom stated that the need for overlap with Future Directions and oversight is evident and he is looking forward to having those committees in the Division.

c. Faith Story and Community Covenant Committee

Heather Fraser has taken over chairing the committee and reported on their behalf. She stated that the

committee is not yet fully staffed, with just 3 members on the committee. It is therefore not possible to do oversight of all the pastoral charges. The committee is working on a cluster-based process for gathering with pastoral charges. They are proposing rollout and pilot program of this process in this coming year. They are actively looking for more members of the committee.

d. Future Directions Committee

Carol Smith reported on behalf of Future Directions Committee. Having heard the previous report, she would like to see this committee meet with Faith Story and Community Covenant Committee to discuss working on cluster-meetings. This committee has wrestled with their committee mandate...”it seems so big and the committee so small”. Region 15 Executive has given over the work of strategic planning to the committee with the addition of 2 members of the Executive. Carol stated she feels good energy on the committee, capably resourced by David. They would like to meet with congregations sooner. She also stressed the need to communicate. She is hoping the committee can do a bit of research over the summer to see what other regions are doing and what best practices exist.

e. Retiree Support Committee

Ruth Gamble reported on behalf of this committee. It is a committee of 6 which generally just keeps in touch with retired folks. Nan Corrigan inquired about part time ministries and the filling of those by retired clergy and the connection of the Retiree Support Committee to Pastoral Relations Committee work. This was discussed.

f. Support Staff Comments

David Hewitt is grateful for the re-jigging of this Division with the addition of these committees. He emphasized the importance of Liaisons and stated the need to train new Liaisons every year. Faith March-MacCuish reflected on the core values of the Region. She stated that one of the core values is support to local congregations and ministries. She discussed how this Division and its committees are evolving to support these ministries and that she feels like we are getting there.

Dates of upcoming Committee Meetings

Please remember to inform the Division of dates of your upcoming committee meetings, either by sending those dates to Nan or Anne.

The next regular meeting of the Division of Ministry resources is scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 9:00 a.m. by ZOOM, the secretary of the Division to circulate ZOOM details prior to that date.

A closing blessing was offered by Faith, giving thanks to God for gathering us, continuing to be our wisdom and guide. The meeting was declared adjourned.

Chairperson, Anne Cameron

Secretary, Nancy Corrigan