

## Pastoral Relations Ponderings – Volume 36

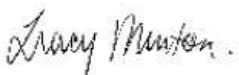
Greetings from the Pastoral Relations desk! I hope the warmth of the sun combined with all the rain is bringing spring to you! Check the highlighted links below for further information on all of the work of Pastoral Relations in Living Skies, including all the ways that you could be involved since the rise of the Regional Council last week.

1. **An update from the Committee on Community of Faith Support** – the Self-Assessment material has been distributed to ministry personnel and pastoral charge supervisors – it is found [here](#) in the Committee on Community of Faith Support file. Please check to see if it has been sent in. Over the summer, consultation regarding questions from the self-assessments will occur to ensure that we are offering the most effective and efficient support. **There is room for at least one more member – 3 more would be great!**
2. **An update from the Committee on Lay Leadership Support** – The interviews and paperwork review for this season have been completed with renewals issued all around. Over the summer, opportunities for learning and development for our lay leaders will be explored in anticipation for fall. **There is room for one more member!**
3. **An update from the Committee on Ministry Personnel Support** – the decisions of the General Council this summer will have a tremendous impact on all of us but none more so than ministry personnel, both active and retired. Over the summer we will be monitoring the results to ensure that appropriate supports are developed and implemented, and policies are updated accordingly. **There is room for one more member!**
4. **A few notes for M&P Committees** – The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is continuing to be felt in many ways. The summer months offer time for the folks who offer worship leadership (both ministry personnel and Licensed Lay Worship Leaders) to have time for rest. I want to encourage generosity where you are able, offering additional days off to provide opportunities for renewal. Contact Bev Diebert if you need access to the pulpit supply list, or create a list of online worship that folks could access.
5. **Fall learning opportunities** – if you are interested in in-person or online learning opportunities to help support your leadership (either as ministry personnel or a lay leader), contact me. We will be working on plans over the summer and would welcome your input!

A further reminder that the Pastoral Relations Commission generally meets on the first Thursday of each month; therefore, we require any paperwork to be submitted to Bev Diebert ([bdiebert@united-church.ca](mailto:bdiebert@united-church.ca)) the Friday before the meeting. For the next meeting of the PRC, any paperwork needs to be received by **Friday, September 2**.

This is Pride week in Saskatoon. Rainbow capitalism is rampant and while as a member of the Queer community I appreciate the effort, sometimes it seems too much like making money than practicing our faith. However, I encourage you to check the post on our FaceBook page from the Regina Cluster who offered blessings – to me, this was a lovely and public way to show welcome, inclusion and love. May you have an opportunity to extend a radical welcome this summer as you take time for rest and renewal. See you in the fall!

Blessings and peace,



Tracy Murton,  
Pastoral Relations Minister  
[tmurton@united-church.ca](mailto:tmurton@united-church.ca)  
1-800-268-3781 ext. 6322

