

## Pastoral Relations Ponderings – Volume 46

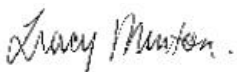
Welcome to the work of Pastoral Relations in Living Skies Regional Council. This is the place to find the most recent information about the Committees and other significant updates in this portfolio.

1. **An update from the Committee on Community of Faith Support** – this fall we will be reviewing the guidelines for annual reports and the self-assessment checklists to help communities of faith assess their health and vitality for faith-filled ministry. **We are looking for up to 3 more people to join this committee.**
2. **An update from the Committee on Lay Leadership Support** – the input from current Licensed Lay Worship Leaders has been woven into the policy governing this work. We are grateful for open, helpful feedback from this gifted group of people. Once approved by the Regional Council Executive, it will be available broadly for implementation. Stay tuned, especially if your community of faith benefits from the leadership of LLWLs in worship. **We are looking for 1 more person to join this committee.**
3. **An update from the Committee on Ministry Personnel Support** – retreats for active ministry personnel are being planned in Regina and Saskatoon in early November as a way to ground folks ahead of the Advent season. Work continues in finding ways to support our retired ministry personnel. **We are looking for 1 more person to join this committee.**
4. **A note regarding the minimum salary schedule** – this schedule is now available on the website; [you can find it at this link](#). If you are the treasurer of your community of faith, please note the increase for visiting ministry personnel (pulpit supply) and communicate with ADP regarding the increase for minimum salary for ministry personnel. Both increases are effective January 1, 2024. Contact me if you have questions.

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.

While October is technically Clergy Appreciation Month, this should be a goal year round. For communities of faith with called or appointed ministry personnel, the importance of affirmation for the folks who care for you pastorally and spiritually is huge. I would also encourage you to express appreciation to the ministry personnel who offer pulpit supply, or who are your pastoral charge supervisors – a simple word of gratitude can make a big difference in someone's day. May you find moments to be grateful for all the ways leadership is expressed in your community of faith and in your life. It is amazing how it can transform your perspective!

Blessings and peace,




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October is

## Clergy Appreciation Month!

The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.

— 1 Timothy 5:17 NIV



God's World Needs Leaders