

Central United Church Update

Request to Presbytery

As a follow-up to concerns brought forward at the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 26, 2017 about Pastor Wayne continuing to be part of the Recovery Ministry at Central after his retirement, the Board sent a request to Calgary Presbytery for them to waive their policy not allowing that to happen. After considerable discussion amongst the Executive of Presbytery, Personnel Support and with Pastor Wayne, Presbytery turned down the Board's request that he be allowed to volunteer to provide leadership to our Recovery Ministry immediately after his retirement.

Wayne's Last Sunday

At the request of Pastor Wayne, he will be taking the month of June off as vacation. Therefore, the last day that we will be able to celebrate his amazing ministry here at Central is May 28. Let us all take advantage of these last few weeks to express our gratitude for how he has touched our lives and how he and Marilyn have been such an integral part of our church family.

Ministry in the Interim

Since we will not have a full time minister in place by the beginning of June, we will avail ourselves of interim ministry until that happens. The Board has already been in discussions with Personnel Support of Presbytery to find the most suitable person to meet our needs.

Joint Needs Assessment Report

The Committee has completed the report which has already been sent to the Board for input or revisions. The Board meets on April 23 to consider the report which will then be presented to the Congregation shortly thereafter.

This has been a trying time for all of us here at Central. I would like to acknowledge the pain and anxiety that we have all been experiencing at the loss, first of all through Pastor Michael's retirement, and now with the retirement of Pastor Wayne. It is an end of an era but, as in the case of all eras, it is also the beginning of a new one. God has a plan for us individually and as a Congregation and my prayer is that we all re-energize and prepare ourselves to fully participate in what God has in store for us. But, in the meantime, it is okay for us to catch our breath, grieve our losses, do some self-care and then carry on being part of God's mission for us in the heart of the city.

Diane Scheibner

Chair, Board of Elders

