

Westminster's Updated Oversight Areas



February 2018

Background

Presbyterian churches are overseen by elders who are elected from and by the congregation. At Westminster there are 10 elders, including the pastor. They meet monthly to oversee the well-being of the church and prayerfully make decisions about its direction.

What is an "Oversight Area"?

At Westminster, we have a system where each elder *oversees* a particular area of the church's life. This doesn't mean they necessarily run everything to do with that part of the church's life; but they report about issues related to that area at the elder meetings. This approach was adopted in June 2016. It clarifies responsibilities and streamlines our meetings. Every two years there are slight adjustments to who oversees which area of the church's life. The listing below informs you about the updated Oversight Areas and corresponding elders.

What are the areas?

Worship – Rev. Ruttan. Content and coordination of worship and services.

Communications – Rev. Ruttan. Corporate communications, online and offline.

Education – Wanda Anderson. General educational opportunities.

Care – Norm Marrow. The pastoral care of the congregation, including the Leading with Care program. (Cathy Clark still coordinates the Pastoral Care team itself.)

Youth and Family – Colin Leonard. Ministries that take a special interest in youth and families.

Building and Maintenance – Jim Bewick. The upkeep and maintenance of the church building and grounds.

Finance – Mary Colvin. The stewardship of the finances in the congregation.

Congregational Life – Bethany Touchette. The shared congregational life of the congregation, with a focus on groups (such as Stitch and Chatter, Adult Social Club, etc).

Neighbourhood and Community Liaison – Guy Gagnon. Our relationship with the neighbourhood and community.

Newcomers – Jim Bewick. A guide for newcomers in the congregation.

Administration and Human Resources – Wayne Hope. Administrative functions, management of certain records, and working with the Human Resources team.

Presbytery Representative – Cathy Clark. Represent Westminster to presbytery, and presbytery to Westminster, as a part of our work with the wider church.

What is our church's Mission Statement?

"Loving God, Loving our Neighbours." We also have a vision statement, which speaks more directly to our vision as a congregation as we seek to love God and our neighbours: "Alive with the Holy Spirit, Westminster is a Christ-centred, family-friendly church."