

2026.0.06 Committee of the Whole (LC) All Hands Meeting (January)

- Minutes from previous meetings.[Ministry Meeting Minutes Archive](#)
- [Join Zoom Meeting.](#) Meeting ID: 825 8167 0394, Passcode: 487224, by phone: 309.205.3325 US
- **In attendance:** Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade, Paul Roberts, Charlene Carle, Susan D'Arcy Fuller, Sarah Medrano-Palmer, Terri Bracy, Erin Sennott, Paul Sennott, Carvina Williams, Liz Douglass, Jackie Kerstner, Aaron Olapade, Jojo Berceuse, Chris Mereschuk

Agenda & Minutes (see meeting summaries below)

1. Recruit Note Taker (Aaron Olapade) & Request to Record Meeting for the purpose of Notes and AI summary
2. [Pastoral "Prayer" - Rev. Wendy](#)
3. Introduce Chris Meruschuk, Director, SNEUCC Church Legacy Corp.
 - a. Review [Ministry Completion and Legacy Process](#) (overview of the things that need to happen); for more detail see the [Checklist Living Legacy v2025 Appendix A](#)
 - b. Review the [Legacy Working Group](#) (the Job Description, Composition, Characteristics of the team and the work).
 - c. For Reference: [Complete Living Legacy Resource Guide](#)
4. Elect / Commission Legacy Working Group
 - a. Confirmed Volunteers: Erin Sennott, Liz Douglass, Jojo Bridgement, Paul Sennott
 - b. Volunteers for Project and/or Task Support - Terri Bracy, Aaron Olapade, Carvina Williams, Susan D'Arcy Fuller

Motion by Rev. Wendy to approve the 4 elected legacy group members
All in favor, no oppose, no abstention
5. Set Schedule for All Hands through June 2026 (considering Bylaws)
6. Recurring Business (**Tabled**)
 - a. Clerk's Report
 - i. [Approve the 2025.11.13 All Hands/Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes](#)
 - ii. FYI - Congregational Meetings
 - [2025.10.07 Special Congregational Meeting](#)
 - [2025.12.02 - 2025 Annual Meeting Recording, Minutes, and Documentation](#)
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - i. [2026.01.06 Budget vs Actuals Draft QB Report](#)

SNEUCC Legacy Process Reference Materials:

1. [Checklist Living Legacy v2025 Appendix A](#)
2. [Legacy Working Group Description](#)
3. [Ministry Completion and Legacy Process](#)

4. [Legacy Church Cost Considerations](#)
5. [Romero Prayer](#)
6. [Complete Living Legacy: Church Legacy & Closure Resource 2025 ed.](#)

Meeting Summary (Zoom AI Generated)

Quick recap: The meeting focused on establishing a Legacy Working Group for Sanctuary Church, with Chris Mayorschuk from the SNE UCC Legacy Corp providing guidance on the ministry completion and legacy process. The group discussed the composition and responsibilities of the working group, with 4 members confirmed: Erin Sennott, Liz Douglas, Jojo Bridgeman, and Paul Sennott, (along with Rev. Wendy as Legacy Pastor); while Terri Bracy, Carvina Williams, Susan D'Arcy Fuller, Aaron Olapade agreed to be available to be assigned specific task-oriented roles. The group debated whether Paul and Erin, who live together, should serve on the working group, ultimately deciding to move forward with both members after discussion about potential conflicts of interest. The conversation ended with a discussion about timeline expectations, with the group acknowledging that a June deadline was unrealistic given their current capacity.

Next steps

- Rev. Wendy: Follow up with the individual who previously expressed interest in joining the Legacy Working Group (as referenced by Jojo) to confirm their continued willingness to participate.
- Rev. Wendy:: Send an email to all participants summarizing the meeting outcomes, including the composition of the Legacy Working Group and task volunteers.
- All Legacy Working Group members and volunteers: Review the full legacy process documentation and consider what is needed for the congregation in terms of timeline and process, especially regarding the target date for closing worship and the associated work plan.
- Rev. Wendy: Schedule (or send out a Doodle poll to schedule) the next meeting of the Legacy Working Group, ensuring to accommodate as many members as possible, especially given Jojo's unavailability on Thursdays.
- All: Commission the elected Legacy Working Group, potentially using the commissioning liturgy provided by Chris, during an upcoming worship service.
- Legacy Working Group: Begin developing a realistic timeline and process for the ministry completion and legacy process, starting with consideration of a target date for the closing worship service and working backwards to set milestones.
- Rev. Wendy: Reach out to Chris Mereschuk to coordinate his availability for a future meeting with the newly formed Legacy Working Group.
- Task volunteers (Terri Bracy, Aaron Olapade, Carvina Williams, Susan D'Arcy Fuller): Be prepared to receive and complete specific project/task assignments from the Legacy Working Group as the process moves forward.

Meeting Summary

Legacy Working Group Process Overview

Rev. Wendy introduced the agenda and mentioned that the meeting would be recorded, with Aaron taking notes. Chris was present to provide an overview of the Legacy Working Group process.

Congregational Vision and Guidance Prayer

Rev. Wendy opened the meeting with a prayer and pastoral support, acknowledging the challenges the congregation faces. She invited everyone to settle in and reflect on the congregation's vision and purpose, expressing gratitude for the congregation's work and asking for God's guidance in the difficult process ahead. Prayed for wisdom, patience, and collaboration among those willing to serve in the next season, and she asked for comfort and understanding for those who are grieving or weary.

Legacy Team Commissioning Process

The meeting focused on reviewing the ministry completion and legacy process, with Chris Mereschuk, Director of the Legacy Corp, providing an overview of the comprehensive work involved. Rev. Wendy outlined the goal of electing and commissioning a legacy team, with three members already confirmed: Liz, Erin, and Jojo. Chris emphasized the significant commitment required, highlighting the importance of working with professionals like attorney Liz Reinhart and leveraging the congregation's involvement. The team discussed the process of completing various tasks, including contacting relevant organizations, seeking guidance, and managing assets, while acknowledging the need to focus on the church's people as its most precious asset.

Legacy Working Group Formation

Chris discussed the formation and responsibilities of a Legacy Working Group, emphasizing the need for a consistent group of 5-7 people to oversee the church's closure process. He highlighted the importance of transparency, integrity, and courage in managing the transition, as well as the potential for dissenting voices to emerge during the process. Rev. Wendy confirmed that the job description and related documents had been shared with the group.

Legacy Working Group Transition Plan

The meeting focused on establishing a legacy working group to guide the congregation through a transition process. Chris emphasized the importance of reflecting the congregation's diversity in the group's composition and suggested setting a target date for a closing worship service to create a timeline. Paul raised concerns about the lack of a clear schedule or roadmap, and Chris recommended using the steps outlined in the Living Legacy Workbook as a guide. The group also discussed the involvement of Paul and Erin S, who are married, and decided that they could serve in different capacities if needed for transparency.

Church Closing Process and Recommendations

The meeting focused on the process of closing a church, including the concept of "closing worship" and the subsequent wind-down of church activities. Chris explained the importance of tapering off activities before the final service and recommended that the pastor continue for a few months after the closing worship. Aaron Olapade acknowledged concerns about potential conflicts of interest due to his relationship with Wendy and Chris clarified that the working group's role is to provide recommendations to the congregation, not to make final decisions. The group discussed the composition of the legacy working group, emphasizing the need for diverse representation (and capacity to get things done given the very small number of people) while acknowledging the potential for perceived conflicts of interest and determined not to include Aaron Olapade in the Working Group.

Congregation Assets Working Group Formation

The meeting focused on forming a working group to handle recommendations related to the congregation's assets and legacy. Chris emphasized the importance of maintaining the group's trustworthiness and transparency, suggesting that family members should not serve together in financial roles, though this was debated. Several members expressed willingness to assist with tasks, while others, like Terri, offered their expertise in areas such as grief and liturgy. The group discussed the need for a larger working group and considered the implications of having family members serve together.

Legacy Working Group Formation

The remainder of the meeting focused on forming a legacy working group for the congregation. Rev. Wendy led the discussion, and the group agreed on four confirmed volunteers: Erin Sennott, Liz Douglas, Jojo Bridgman, and Paul Sennett. They also affirmed four additional volunteers for task and project work: Terri Bracy, Aaron Olapade, Carvina Williams, and Susan D'Arcy Fuller.