May 11, 2022

Co-Chairs Reflection

Thank you to everyone that helped make our 2022 Prairie to Pine Regional Council Annual Gathering such a rich and uplifting event.

The Planning Team, who only started the serious work on Feb 22, took up the challenge of creating a full and thoughtful time together. We didn’t have business to deal with so we got a chance to concentrate on sharing our ideas, questions, concerns and encouragements with each other and be entertained by some amazing singers on top of it.

Folks responded wonderfully to the ask for stories about their congregations and an excellent technical team helped everything run smoothly. We are so lucky to have people in our midst who help us navigate the e-world.

Hope you got a chance to devour the workbook. It is not always easy or fun to write an Annual Report but they are so important in our accountability to this Regional Council.

Thanks for all the great work throughout the year.

We had the pleasure of spending time with our guests representing the wider church: Michael Blair, GC General Secretary; Vicki Nelson, GC Community of Faith Stewardship Support; Sarah Law from Music United; and William Simons from the URDC Bookstore. There are so many great leaders and wonderful resources out there for us.

Our guest speaker, Dr Stewart Hill, helped us along our journey of truth and reconciliation. Not an easy road but so important. We were lucky to receive his wise and encouraging words.

We remembered people and places we have lost; we celebrated two retirements and celebrated our new Licensed Lay Worship Leaders; we completed Covenants with Communities of Faith and look forward to the Celebration of Ministry Service at the end of June. If you missed any parts of the meeting or want to revisit the parts you really enjoyed, I know there are links in the website.

We are really looking forward to the possibilities of this new year and encourage everyone to keep connecting and sharing your hopes and needs for this Regional Council. It will be great to meet in-person in Winnipeg next year. Stay tuned for date and location information.

Have a wonderful summer!

On behalf of Diane Dwarka, Erica Wiebe and myself, Pat Bird have a wonderful summer.