

# RICHMOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## SESSION NOTES – 22 FEB 22

A shorter meeting than usual for us, on a chilly, moonlit night. A lot of “heavy lifting” was done at our Jan 25 meeting, so this past weeks was largely tidying up loose ends.



Preparation for the Mar 6 Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) Part I was completed, mostly involving detailed planning of the flow of reports and motions to be presented. For a few years now, we have held 2 ACMs, one in the early part of the year with a focus on the budget, and one in early summer with a focus on ministry. This helps allow enough time for all business to be discussed as needed. Reminder that worship on Mar 6 is ONLINE ONLY, followed by the Zoom ACM to allow maximum participation.

In view of the PHO’s recent relaxing of restrictions on gatherings, we are happy to report that Munch and Mingle is back starting on the Sunday after the Annual Congregational Meeting. For now, we’ll follow the same rules as last fall: please be masked unless you are seated and actually eating or drinking. And please do sit down if you are enjoying refreshments. For the first few months, teams will host starting with Care & Fellowship. Some of our teams are small and will be reaching out for help. Please be open to lending a hand if you are asked, as M&M is an important time of fellowship, particularly after a long period of limited socialising.

Tickets for our first of 2 Learning from Indigenous Wisdom events, at 7:00pm on Sat, Mar 12 with speaker the Rev Dr Ray Aldred, are now available online at richpres.com. More info and a link to tickets are found under ‘Events’. These evenings of discussion, food, and the arts are intended to help us live into the words of the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement that we make each Sunday. Big thank you to student intern Jacqueline Cleland for all her work in pulling these together.

By the way, the ‘Events’ page on our website is your source for all church and church-supported programs and events. Are you sure you’re aware of all that is happening in our congregational life? Check out the webpage regularly.



This Sunday is Communion. We’ll proceed as we did in December, with people coming forward for bread served via tongs and individual cups of juice. If you cannot come forward, 2 roving elders will bring the elements to you where you sit.



Lent is approaching, beginning with our Ash Wednesday service at noon on Mar 2. Look for multiple bible studies and other seasonal activities as we turn our thoughts to Holy Week.

Coming out of pandemic restrictions is more challenging than going in, in some ways. More options are available for how you can participate in church life, and when to return to in-person is uncertain. Unlike the early days of lockdowns, distancing, masking, and Zooming, people are no longer mostly on the same page, which is understandable and to be respected. It’s a season of both caution and anticipation, of return to the familiar but also a reassessment of the familiar. Even if there may be less of a sense that we are “in this together”, perhaps there’s more of a sense that we are in this with God.

*Faithfully*  
*Graeme Stager*  
*Session Clerk*