

North Burlington Churches united

“One church body in Christ which ministers to the needs identified by the North Burlington community”

Minutes - April 3, 2017

Tansley United Church – 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: Heather McGavin (chair), Sue Stephen (secretary for this meeting), Rev. Stephen Huntley, Rev. Allison Playfair, Rev. Daryl Webber, Carol Boyle, Marilyn Stairs, Janet Saunders, Gary Goodale, Dale McKeown, Mike Lawton, Shirley Bottaro, Paul Bartu, Keith Rutherford, Nancy Knill, Ruth Coverdale, Muriel Howe,

Regrets: Dale Martin, Janice Martin, Marilyn Martin

1. Welcome & Blessing, Lighting of the Christ candle. NBCu prayer was read by Marilyn Stairs and Daryl and Steve led the singing of “Let us Build a House”
2. Review & Acceptance of March 6th minutes – Moved by Nancy Knill and seconded by Shirley Bottaro:- carried
3. Update on common prayer – being used well by all churches
4. Update on joint Holy Week services
Taize – every Wednesday in Lent at St. Stephen (6:30 to 7:00 p.m.)
Palm Sunday – each congregation will hold their own service
Wednesday April 12 – at Tansley: Pot Luck at 6:30 followed by a movie and discussion (title of the movie to be determined)
Maundy Thursday service at St. Stephen
Good Friday – St. Stephen – Refreshments at 10 followed by the service at 10:30 a.m. Appleby United will join with the churches of NBCu for this service.
Easter morning – Sunrise at Lowville Park – request to let Lowville know of possible numbers of people attending from each church. Each congregation will celebrate Easter during regular worship times.

5. Updates from each congregation

Lowville: On April 2, 2017, 25 children + 20 adults participated in a program facilitated by youth division of City Of Burlington, average age 7-10 years, - event resulted from the community round table. Spring Fling being hosted May 13 at the Burlington Seniors Centre - \$20 per person. A dance with music provided by a live band. The event has been planned as a celebration for Canada 150.

Nelson: offer accepted from Vedic Transcendental Meditation for sale of the church. Nelson received approval from Presbytery on March 28 for distribution of funds from the sale. Next step is to proceed with amalgamation now that the liability (building) has been cleared. Last Service will be held in the church on June 25. Closing on the sale is July 17.

St. Stephen: Design and Development committee meets on Wednesday, April 5 to see a design proposal from the developer. The congregation is not making a quick decision about whether or not to build. Congregation will work with EDGE on how best to move forward considering the question of what to do in a year's time (when current building is demolished) – worship somewhere else with another location or find another location for St. Stephen. Plan to be developed relating to the decisions that need to be made. Mother's Day Tea on May 13, Rummage sale on April 8.

Tansley: - Presbytery met at Tansley March 28. Nelson congregation has been invited for a pot luck on April 21. Work needs to begin with Nelson Board about next steps. 6th Annual Electronics recycling event this weekend –April 8. UCW – April 19 – Alzheimer's society – all NBCu women are invited. Halton Police Chorus is doing a concert here on April 22. Annual book sale is scheduled for May 13, and a Garage Sale for May 27. Steve goes on sabbatical starting May 1. Pastoral Care will be provided in May by Allison, and in June by Daryl.

6. Issues arising from last meeting

- Renewal Resource Centre – St Stephen is not in a position to support financially, anyone from the congregation interested in the proposed project was invited to speak with Lowville. Tansley is not in a position to support financially, and Board members did not feel they could get involved without dropping some current responsibilities. Keith thanked the churches for taking this to their Boards/Councils and said he

saw this as a concept that may come forward again.

- Needs identified for North Burlington – Risha was contacted and will bring ideas back to us – possibly top 5 opportunities to be listed for us for next month. Noted that Risha has resigned and will be moving to a new position in another community.
- NBCu prayer group – suggestion for prayer within these monthly meetings. Marilyn Stairs expressed her interest in being involved with a prayer group.
- Status of Tansley / Nelson amalgamation – see items above under Tansley and Nelson

7. Other business

- What are our next steps? Do we have a plan?

Daryl – how do we make items of the visioning day become realities? Daryl proposed the three ministers focus on areas of identified needs as chosen on the Visioning Day

1. Outreach needs and social action needs - Daryl
2. Small group ministries – spirituality formation – faith formation Steve
3. Youth engagement – creation of a second generation – messy church – worship – Christian development - Allison

- Suggestion of regathering of visioning participants – there was not unanimous agreement that this was necessary.
- Suggestion to invite Jill Strapp to assist with a process outlining how the focus approach would work. Noted that clarification is needed from Presbytery and/or congregations if it is determined the approach represents a change to the ministers' calls/appointment.
- Heather to contact Dale Martin and Jill Strapp about the concept of conducting a second visioning time, preferably May 1. It was felt the planning could be coordinated through email. Daryl, Nancy, Allison, and Steve all expressed interest in planning for a second session. Janet is willing to be an alternate for planning if needed.

8. Next Meeting May 1 at Tansley (to be confirmed) suggested titles for the gathering: “Double Vision” “Visioning – Take 2” “Revision”

9. Adjournment moved by Paul Bartu. Closing blessing given by Steve.