

# North Burlington Churches united

Minutes

February 5, 2018

7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen United Church

**Attendance:** Rev. Daryl Webber, Ruth Coverdale, Rev. Allison Playfair, Heather McGavin (chair), Paul Bartu, Gary Goodale, Susan Ward England, Janet Saunders Sue Stephen (recorder)

**Regrets:** Rev. Stephen Huntley, Dale Martin, Janice Martin, Dale McKeown, Barb McKeown, Carol Boyle, Marilyn Stairs, Marilyn Martin, Nancy Knill

**Meeting opened** with Heather reading the North Burlington Churches united prayer. Note: Allison made some changes to the prayer for use at St. Stephen to make it more “palatable” for some people. Allison to share the revision with the other churches for their consideration.

**Moved** by Ruth Coverdale and seconded by Gary Goodale that the minutes of the December 4, 2017 be accepted as circulated. Carried. (Note: January 2018 meeting was cancelled due to weather and projected low attendance.)

## Congregational Reports on Key Events since the December meeting and upcoming events/major activities:

- Joint Service was held on January 7, 2018 at Lowville

### Lowville

Events since December 2017	Upcoming Events
Chili cook-off January 27 raised \$500 – winner: Ruth Coverdale	Contemporary service planned for February 16 at 7:30 p.m. This service will feature praise music – open to all
JNAC had its first meeting week of January 29. Presbytery Reps are Rev. Brenna Nickel (Erindale) and Marilyn Parsons (Port Nelson). Reason for JNAC: Daryl’s appointment ends June 30, 2018	St. Patrick night planned for March 17 and will feature the Lowville Major 7 Band
Stewardship campaign is underway.	Easter Sunday Sunrise service 7 a.m. at Lowville Park (dress for the weather and wear boots). Continental Breakfast at the church following the service – open to all

Events since December 2017	Upcoming Events
Kids in the Kitchen program is ongoing	
Lowville Turns In – Christmas story-telling featured favourite teachers	
Stuart McLean night well attended	
In cooperation with the Lowville Festival there was an event featuring the Welsh Choir	
Day of Contemplation	Day of Contemplation to be a monthly on-going opportunity for people across the Presbytery (10:30 to noon). Volunteers are welcome to coordinate/lead. Contact Daryl.
Book Club met January 15 and discussed native/indigenous art.	

### St Stephen

Events since December 2017	Upcoming Events
Christmas services went well	Maundy Thursday Service, March 29, 2018 will be hosted by St Stephen for the NBCu congregations – Combined choirs of St Stephen and Tansley
Purchase agreement is being re-written. City of Burlington has requested that the creek area be gifted to the city. An Environmental Impact Study is required. The 60 day extension on the agreement will put the purchase/sale date at May 15 or June 15, 2018. Presbytery has been informed of the proposed changes to the agreement.	In recognition of the life and work of the congregation of St Stephen, plans are being made to have celebrations to invite back and recognize those who were Baptized, or married (a vow renewal will occur) in the church or who were sponsored by St Stephen as candidates for ministry. Former ministers may also be invited back to preach.
Trustees voted in favour of the congregation remaining in the building until June 2019. The congregation and user-groups are aware of the new date.	Congregational meeting set for March 4, 2018
Spaghetti Dinner and auction on February 3, 2018 raised \$1000 for the Bridge Program	

## Tansley

Events since December 2018	Upcoming Events
Tansley's location for the Halton Fresh Food Box program is one of the largest in the region. The original coordinators stepped down after many years and the site was in jeopardy of closing. A new coordinator has come forward.	Single Moms (and children) dinner to be held on February 13 with a presentation by a local chocolatier.
Finished 2017 in the black.	Ash Wednesday Service, February 14, 2018 at 7 p.m. will be hosted by Tansley for the NBCu congregations
A new system has been implemented for tracking visitors.	Lenten study – open to all begins on February 21 at 1 p.m.
Service on January 28, 2018 had a "healing" theme + recognized the 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Another 33 prayer shawls were dedicated. Over 700 shawls have been distributed worldwide.	An evening of Court Whist is scheduled for February 24 at 7 p.m. All are welcome
Outreach programs are on-going: Yoga/Senior Stretch, Line Dancing and Cooking for Seniors (this program is Full)	Congregational meeting will be held on March 4, 2018
	Good Friday, March 30, 2018 at 10 a.m. will be hosted by Tansley for the NBCu congregations – Joint Choir – Appleby, Lowville, St Stephen and Tansley
	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Recycling event scheduled for April 7 – opportunity for teens to get volunteer hours
	Book Sale May 12, 2018
	Shredding Event June 2, 2018

**NBCu Story Telling Retreat February 3, 2018 Lowville UC:** The retreat was cancelled (only 6 individuals registered for the event and 10 was the minimum for the event). All the planning for the event has been done and it will be re-offered at another time.

### St Stephen/Tansley exploratory conversations:

- First meeting was held on January 18, 2018
- There were 5 representatives from St Stephen, 4 from Tansley (Board Co chairs will attend future meetings) and Marg Torrance (EDGE) facilitated.
- Discussion was open and honest.

- Next meeting is March 8 at Tansley
- Meeting minutes will be distributed to both congregations and updates to be provided to both congregations at the upcoming annual meetings (both being held March 4, 2018). It was suggested (NBCu meeting) that the distribution of minutes be:
  - Made via an e-blast (simultaneously by Admin staff of each congregation)
  - Made by including the minutes in the Annual Reports (should be available in print 2 weeks prior to the meetings (i.e. by February 18, 2018))
  - A hard copy to be posted in each church

In addition, the fact that exploratory conversations are occurring should be

- an item on the agenda for the AGM, and,
- Regular and ongoing opportunities for discussion should be given to the congregations following the distribution of minutes from each meeting.

**Next NBCu meeting** – March 5, 2018 at Tansley UC at 7 p.m.

**Closing Blessing** – offered by Allison

**Adjournment** - Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.