

NORTH BURLINGTON CHURCHES united

"One church body in Christ which minister to the needs identified by the North Burlington community"

March 6, 2017- Nelson United Church

Attendance: Janet Saunders, Rev Stephen Huntley, Dale McKeown, Barb McKeown, Keith Rutherford, Gary Goodale, Mike Lawton, Rev. Allison Playfair, Gerry Howe, Marilyn Martin, Ruth Coverdale, Nancy Knill, Shirley Bottaro, Marilyn Stairs, Heather McGavin, Rev Daryl Webber

Regrets: Dale Martin, Janice Martin, Susan Stephen, Carol Boyle

WELCOME & BLESSING & NBCu PRAYER: Heather McGavin,
Scripture Reading Rev Daryl Weber

REVIEW & ACCEPTANCE of February 6, 2017 minutes

Motion: Marilyn Martin

Second: Keith Rutherford

Carried

1. Update on common prayer

-prayer is still meeting our needs

2. February 12 joint worship service

-music was wonderful with the large choir

-team work was great to see

-nice to see our ministers in their roles

REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 25TH VISIONING DAY OUTPUT

Feedback on the day

-good energy

-expecting a recommendation from Jill but there was only our various comments in the report

-her job was just to facilitate

-people got to know that Lowville was north of Dundas

Thank you to all who contributed

Settlement of outstanding bills including Facilitator Costs to date

- costs are being settled
- the rental of the hall will be covered with 12 Voices United and 12 More Voices from Nelson UC

Review of key out put

- some of the comments from Lowville were not included in the report because they were not part of an action plan for Lowville
- was this a concern? No
- east west corridor comparison was a surprise for some of Lowville church members
- North Burlington is sometimes thought of as east of Dundas
- was mentioned that the area was QEW to Dundas
- sensitivity over this issue, we need to remain inclusive
- Lowville is rural north Burlington
- day was well done
- it was a great day and a lot was accomplished
- showed us there was more work to be done
- broadened what we have been doing
- got the word out to many more people
- three people from East Plains attended
- St Stephen group felt defensive when asked how they have been selling themselves with the implication that the current situation could be remedied by doing this

UPDATES FROM THE CONGREGATIONS

Nelson- congregational vote

- had their annual meeting on Feb 26
- endowment fund in place
- voted to amalgamate with Tansley UC
- have a firm offer on the property but were unable to close the deal as presbytery thought they would get more money

- will put church on the market for 90 days
- hopefully they will be able to fall back on the initial offer if no other offers in 90 day

- received official letter from Tansley to amalgamate

St Stephen- non-binding letter of intent with developer

- design development team still working

- not in a place to make a recommendation to the congregation yet

- need to maximize the value of the property

- no clear direction

- will need to decide where we are going to worship when church is torn down

- construction will begin around June 2018

Tansley- official invitation to Nelson to amalgamate post Nelson vote

- Carol Boyle has been informing the congregation of what is occurring at the NBCu meetings

- our annual meeting was the same day as Nelson

- Our next board meeting in March we will address this more now that the vote has occurred at Nelson

- conversation with presbytery around the amalgamation

- when does Nelson and Tansley boards begin meeting

- no answer at this point- direction will come from presbytery

- has to be approved by presbytery first

- anticipating meetings within the next 2 months

- presbytery representatives bring this information to presbytery

- Lowville Nelson charge has to be separated- a cost share relationship exists between the two churches

Lowville-update on Visioning re Resource Centre proposal

- working with a tight deadline

- feel they can support a 3/4 ministry

- they have increased their givings
- looking at holding a farmers market, tying in the business community
- impact on minister and the administration staff
- not just a Lowville initiative but a NBCu initiative
- outcome dependant on how the NBCu react and contribute
- cannot work from a bubble
- concerned about supply ministry after June 30
- more demand on lay people
- challenges that they hope the whole NBCu will join to help with
- a proposal will be drafted to outline what Lowville hopes the NBCu will accept to help with the plans for Lowville

Lowville proposal for Resource Centre

- presented by Keith Rutherford
- please find attached report
- something has to be unique about this endeavour
- Katherine Talbot- advisor in this area
- is there a need, building suitable, accessibility,
- re: Pilot Stage Budget page - after this you launch a pilot project
- this process does not have salaries of anyone attached to it
- this is not a Lowville resource centre but a North Burlington resource centre
- \$22,000 covered by the Nelson for the coming year (25 percent of Rev Daryl Weber salary)
- after a year you would evaluate to see if it was sustaining
- can the NBCu support this initiative
- is it something the NBCu want to support

Motion: That the NBCu Renewal Resource Centre proposal be reviewed by the councils to see if there is an interest and that they can support this

Keith Rutherford

Second: Gary Goodale

Questions:

- is the financial support to bring Daryl's salary up to 100%? Yes
- Daryl would be responsible for maintaining the NBCu Resource Centre
- there needs for a leadership role to be the face of the team
- NBCu was started by the 3 ministers to get the congregations involved with each other
- if we did vote in acceptance of this proposal we would be separating the ministers from their work
- for this to be a NBCu ownership project requires more involvement from the other churches to make this a joint project
- could Keith be available at a time for more in depth discussion of this proposal? Yes
- each church has its own passions and areas that we support and would need to be involved in the planning of what the Creative Renewal Resource centre would involve
- Lowville is passionate about the centre
- people may feel this is self-serving to ask for support for a minister for Lowville
- asking for financial and human resources
- St Stephen is not presently in a position to offer financial resources
- Tansley is not presently in a position to offer financial resources
- question is can we make this sustainable
- vision, staffing, and revenue are the three avenues that lie before us in the next steps with NBCu

Motion Carried

- recommendation for the NBCu Council to empower the clergy to find ways to have more collaborative ministry work i.e. for Ministers to serve areas they are gifted in
- this is beyond this group's capacity
- looking toward the future- are we there yet- No
- there is latitude in the minister's call for collaborative work in part but not to serve in gifted areas only

What are the key steps for NBCu?

1 To take the motion from Lowville to our boards

2. Common vision for NBCu- presence in North Burlington

-what is that presence

-what are the needs identified by the North Burlington churches

-we need to define these needs

-identify four needs- Risha Burke could help identify these needs

-investigate these four needs- are any of these suggested needs something we want to support and can support

Motion: To confer with Risha Burke and other professionals to identify the four top needs of the north Burlington area and investigate these needs

Marilyn Martin

Second: Dale McKeown

-are we prepared to go out and serve the community and make these decisions

-not hearing about any spiritual needs- prayer groups, bible study etc.

-where are the opportunities to learn to pray and serve

-need these in order to go out

-we need to support ourselves in our faith to continue to share our faith

-should we be doing more things collectively ex. UCW,

-already doing Outreach, Tansley has offered UCW inclusiveness

-need to plan what these areas are and how to fulfill them

Carried

Action: Rev Allison will contact Risha Burke to assess the top four needs in North Burlington

3. A couple of people from each congregation to join in prayer for NBCu.
Pray for guidance and direction

Next Meeting date and location: April 3 at Tansley United Church

Motion for adjournment: Shirley Bottaro 9:05 p.m.

Adjournment and closing blessing: Rev Stephen Huntley