

Knox/Division Street United Churches Joint Committee Meeting
Thursday, December 9, 2010

Pre planners---Judy Chalmers, Rev. Ralph Schmidt, Rev, Cathy Hird, Kara McClusky, Styn Furness

Welcome—Chairperson Judy Chalmers.

Meditation Rev. Ralph Schmidt---Don't Sell Out the Kingdom (David Giulliano)
Song—led by Kara McClusky—Draw the Circle Wide

Introduction of members present

Knox members—Judy Chalmers (Chair) Rev, Ralph Schmidt, Marjorie Perry, Jeanette Rankin, Mary Monteith, Toni Van Zetten, Ron Savage, Barry Foulds, Bill Van Wyck, Terry King.

Division Street members—Kara McCluskey, Rev. Cathy Hird, Jack Stock, Alvin Stewart, Helen Laughlen, Marg. Whetstone, Peter Shaw, Ted Stevens, Styn Furness.

Co- Chairs –for future meetings---**Terry King (Knox)**
Jack Stock (Division St.)

Scribe- Styn Furness

Wider Invitations—Decision was made to issue invitations to the other United Churches to attend these meetings.

Minutes to be made available to them via the church websites.

Volunteers for meeting meditations— next meeting—Toni Van Zetten (Knox)
Helen Laughlen Div. St.)

Frequency of meetings---to start-- once a month

- next meeting **January 5th, 7 P.M. at Knox.**

Facilitation-- needed? when?

- Co-chairs Terry King/Jack Stock to notify Presbytery/Conference of our intent
- Joint letters from our Church Councils sent to notify Presbytery of events in progress. (Judy Chalmers/Styn Furness.
- In the future—property evaluation----professional help for a possible merger of congregations.
- A mediator to help solve problems e.g. buildings?

Questions—

To accomplish at this meeting-----goals-

- **How much enthusiasm? _____**
- **Spirit of co-operation? _____**
- **Begin structure process _____**
- **Length of the process? _____**

Short Term Goals—90 days----

- **Joint services----once a month?---keep offerings separate**
- **U.C.W groups unite**
- **Visitations to retirement and nursing homes with joint teas etc.**
- **Co operative worship services --not as guests but members- merging ushers**

etc. from each church. Shared technology—info on the websites-church secretaries work together for a blended bulletin-printed copies available as well as computer info. Facebook—Twitter to be added to the computer site with links to both churches in hopes to attract the youth Youth can be used to help set this up (Doug Roberts mentioned as a resource person)

- **Information sent out on a continuous basis. Constant updates to the congregations via website, printed material and verbal reports.**
- **Joint meetings of committees meet on a quarterly basis---chairs of Council-reps from each committee e.g. worship, Sunday School, trustees.**
- **Youth –and others—Christmas carolling**
- **Division St. invite Knox to the “Four Corner Walk”.**
- **Division St. invite Knox (Jan.) to the Birthday Bash---contact Kara McCluskey**
- **Meetings reported in both churches Annual Reports.**
- **Attend each others Annual meetings---Knox Feb.6th,2011—Division Street –May1st, 2011**
- **List sent out to inform all of the committee members.**
- **Begin joint services once a month in January, Notification in the church Bulletins of the intent for bi-monthly services.**
- **Timeline—info back to congregations-work quickly and strong to keep up the momentum. Goal 1 year (perhaps)**

Long Term Goals—Dreams

- A United Church of Owen Sound
- Summary of our meeting – verbally and posted on the web
- Shared Newsletters for Lent
- A designated Pastoral Care Committee
- Agenda for the January meeting---What is our mission?
Community partnership
The inspiration behind the enthusiasm
- Funds to carry out our goals
- Evaluation and worth of the buildings
- Research for available monies.

Next meeting---- January 5th , 7 P.M at Knox United Church---
Chairperson---Terry King

Closing Meditation---- Rev. Cathy Hird

Chairperson-----Secretary-----