

**Association of Dundas Churches
Salvation Army - Dundas
February 28, 2019**

Present:

Dundas Baptist - Shawn Erb, Karl Armstrong
Christ Church Flamborough - Margaret Monds
Christian Science - Marjorie Verhoeven
Grace Valley - Paul Vanden Brink
Knox Presbyterian - Penny Garrison, Wayne Poole
Life Community - Duane Henry
St. Augustines Catholic -
St. James Anglican - Peter Davison
St. Mark's United -
St. Paul's United - Mary Anne Tangney
Salvation Army - Nellie Noack, Karen Sobierajski

Regrets: Dorothy Bartalos, Lorna MacQueen (St. Mark's United); Yvonne Wilson, Bob Love (St. Augustines Catholic); Helen Prior, Susan Laing (St. Paul's United); Rosemary Horsewood, Sue Nicholls (Christ Church Flamborough); Norma Coe, Anne Washington (St. James Anglican)

Guests: Gail Poole (Knox Presbyterian); Sarah Ayerst, Hamilton Aging in Community; Loretta Jaunzarins, Pastor, Grace Lutheran Church, 1107 Main St. West. Hamilton.

1 Opening: Chair, Shawn Erb welcomed ADC members and guests. Special greetings to Wayne Poole accompanied by his wife Gail, after hip surgery Jan. 28. Karen Sobierajski opened our meeting with prayer at 7:08.

Presentation: Sarah Ayerst, Hamilton Aging in Community & Loretta Jaunzarins, Minister at Grace Lutheran Church presented about "**Hamilton Aging in Community**" - a website fostering INTER-DEPENDENCE (vs. Independence) - how we can age with connections and mutual support in the community aimed at reducing social isolation (loneliness), poverty (sharing resources) and developing alternative ways of supporting each other as we grow older. The website is a community 'hub' of resources, events and ideas on Aging in Community, specific to the Hamilton area - Senior Services in Hamilton, calendar of events and a weekly blog - <http://hamiltonagingtogether.ca/contact>
Many events and inter-generational events are held at Grace Lutheran Church, 1107 Main St. West.

2 Minutes: *Move that the minutes of the January 31, 2019 meeting be approved as distributed (Peter Davison/Nellie Noack). Carried.*

3 Correspondence:

- Letter of Thanks (written by Communications Chair, Rosemary Horsewood) to Craig Campbell of the Dundas Star for the excellent article (Jan. 10, 2019 issue) written about the Association of Dundas Churches
- Get Well Card to ADC member Wayne Poole
- Letter attached to cheque to Salvation Army Food Bank for monies donated at 2018 Advent Walk

Business Arising:

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4a 2018 Advent Walk:

- At the January ADC meeting, we realized our lack of oversight of the monies donated to the Salvation Army Food Bank at our annual Advent Walk, 2018. Since then, all churches have turned over donations to the ADC Treasurer, Marjorie Verhoeven who deposited the money into the bank. A cheque was written for \$468.50 but donations were already submitted to Salvation Army in the amount of \$180.00 (to our best guess), so the total amount donated from the Advent Walk of 2018 was approximately \$648.50 (down from previous years.)
- At the 2019 Advent Walk, we intend on implementing a better plan for donation giving.
- All churches will be supplied with envelopes stating the purpose of the donation. Clergy will remind the attendees of donations at each church stop as part of the service and have the donation baskets in prominent places in the church (better promotion).
- Each church is responsible for their collections, which should be tallied and passed on to the clergy at the Reception Church (i.e. this year Knox Presbyterian church sponsored the Reception).
- From here, ADC Treasurer will collect the donation and deposit to the bank. A donation cheque will be given to the allocated benefactor along with a letter of intent.

4b 50th Anniversary of the Association of Dundas Churches (Committee - Sue Nicholls, Margaret Monds, Norma Coe, Shawn Erb)

- Paul Vanden Brink looked into booking the Dundas Driving Park - he knows the process of the Special Events Application but we need a date in order to do this. We discussed and settled on Sunday, Sept 22, 2019, (Sept. 29, 2019 secondary date) @ 3:00 pm at either the pavilion or a kitchenette area - Paul Vanden Brink will go ahead with this process.
- The committee needs to meet to make a barebones plan for this event and bring information to the next meeting. Shawn Erb stated he would call this meeting to get things started.

4c Church Ambassadors for the Association of Dundas Churches

- An idea coming out of the 2018 Survey was that appointed ambassador(s) from the ADC bring greetings to the churches to promote the work of the Association and bring awareness to the congregations. The message might not be as listened to from the pastor or church ADC reps who may not be comfortable addressing their own congregations.
- This was to be discussed at the February Ministerial meeting, however it was cancelled. The clergy present at this meeting felt we should proceed (Grace Valley, St. James, Knox, Dundas Baptist, Community Life, Christian Science). The two ambassadors (Reps) who agreed to do this, Anne Washington and Mary Anne Tangney will meet before the March ADC meeting.

4d Lenten Lunches

- A reminder to churches providing soups/sandwiches to have gluten free options.
- NOTE: (already sent out to churches) that the kitchen is not available until 10:00 am and the hall itself is not available until 11:15 (others using the hall).
- A count of attendance (head count) should be done by the group preparing the lunch as well as collecting the donations - Joy Thomson (Administrator of St. Paul's who will attend the lunches) will hold the money until ADC Treasurer can receive and do the bank deposit.
- Lunches start this Wednesday (Ash Wednesday - March 6, 2019) Hopefully ALL churches are promoting this event.

4e Joint Choirs -

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- No one has discussed this idea with their Choir Directors/Music Ministers - Defer to next Ministerial and Association Meeting

4d Federal Election with Dundas Works

- Shawn Erb made contact with Dundas Works who stated they would welcome working alongside the Association of Dundas Churches to plan an All Candidates meeting. We have now committed to this as a partner in sponsoring, organizing and promoting this event to take place when a Federal Election is called this year. It is hoped that all members and their respective churches get behind this event.

5 Reports:

5a Treasurer's Report -

- Treasurer, Marjorie Verhoeven reports a current balance of \$2009.27 Five (5) churches have paid their annual dues. *Motion to accept the Treasurers Report (Marjorie Verhoeven/ Penny Garrison) Carried.*

5b Communications -

- In her absence, Rosemary reports that she sent a letter of thanks to Craig Campbell, Dundas Star for the excellent article written about the history and work of the Association of Dundas Churches
- Lenten Lunch flyers have been created and circulated to ALL churches as well and Dundas Businesses and hubs.

5c Community Dinners -

- In Anne Washington's absence the following report was sent:
- Monday Night Community Dinners are fully organized and provided independently by each participating church. EarthShakes, a restaurant in Dundas, continues to provide soup once a month which is rotated between churches.
- Once a year, an informal meeting with the leads of these dinners is held to share/discuss ideas, finances, concerns, ups and downs etc.
- One church (St Paul's) has shared that extra (left over) food is being picked up by Executive Director, Jeff Black of Routes Youth Centre to be served at the dinners provided for youth at the centre during the week. It is carefully packaged and refrigerated according to Public Health regulations. Anne Washington has spoken to each community dinner leads about this - the response was positive - they will contact Jeff Black directly if they choose to go this route.

5d Food Bank -

- Karen Sobierajski (Manager, Salvation Army Family Services) introduced herself to us. The Food Bank and other services are overseen by her and co-worker Scott Gross. Karen S. lives in Hamilton and plays in the Salvation Army Band so is unable to join us for ADC meetings on most Thursdays, but will give report for our meetings as to what is needed in the Food Bank each month. Chair and Secretary will assist with getting this report monthly.
- The Food Bank is open Monday, Wednesday 9:30 - 12 and Friday's all day (this is new) but the food bank will respond to anyone needing food - produce is given when they have it. The recipients are the working poor, people on Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Support Program.

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- Other programs were described and flyers handed out: Summer Camp, Pathway of Hope, Baby Song, Art Creations with Karen, Verge, Cafe 55, Crisis/Hope Line, Christmas Hamper program.
- Needed at this time: Healthy School snacks and lunch foods - no peanuts!

5e Ellen Osler House -

- A resident is coming on Monday, Mar. 4/19 so the house will be full occupancy
- Thank you folders made by the residents were given to all the churches in response to their generosity, compassion and company over the Christmas season and Christmas Day which can be very lonely for the residents of Ellen Osler Home. Nellie said that this gesture indicates the impact that the churches have on the women who live at EOH.

5f Routes Youth Centre -

- Annual Fundraiser Dinner/Silent Auction (Feb. 22, 2019) was successful and sold out event.

5g Dundas Community Services - No report

5h EcoWham -

- Wayne Poole circulated a package of information from Paul Lemieux, E.D. of Project Harvest Guatemala - this Project empowers rural families through training in food security and women's leadership as men are away working in coffee plantations but coffee prices are subject to marked fluctuations. The aim is to improve the lives of rural, poor Guatemalans, living in the "dry corridor" where drought has been exacerbated by climate change - through improved farming methods to grow sufficient food for families and generate some income by selling whatever excess is produced. Their agricultural methods are environmentally friendly and effective for healthy and plentiful harvests. Some of the challenges include more droughts, spent soils, lack of seed, how to sow, lack of water, composting issues, political turmoil, indigenous discrimination and many other social problems. The project has given women greater self- esteem, confidence and leadership skills
- The Executive will discuss as to a presentation (above) to the larger body of ADC and let Wayne Poole know or contact Paul Lemieux directly. Any church wanting a presentation for possible financial support or partnering are welcome to contact Paul Lemieux at 905-979-7528 or projectharvest.guatemala@gmail.com
- Earth Hour will be at the Quaker Meeting House this year - Mar. 30, 2019 (Theme: Reduce, Reuse, Change the Way We Live)
- Sandy Shaw MPP has contacted EcoWham looking for a venue for an upcoming Environmental Town Hall in Dundas featuring Diane Saxes, previously an environmental lawyer & Former Commissioner of Ontario (independent body from the Provincial Gov't). The Event will be held on April 14, 2019 from 2:00 - 4:00 - Venue TBA
- CREW - Community Resilience to Extreme Events - Wayne Poole and Mary Anne Tangney continue to attend these meetings of a pilot project in Beasley Neighbourhood - they are observers/participants with the hope of bringing this model at some point in time to Dundas with possible involvement of our churches of ADC. Mary Anne Tangney will attend a meeting at Environment Hamilton on March 11, 2019 to sign the Association of Dundas Churches as part of this Network - the group present agreed that ADC should participate in the activities/ promotion of CREW.

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5j Truth and Reconciliation Committee -

- Mary Anne Tangney reported (in the absence of Rosemary Horsewood and Susan Laing): “All Our Relations” Discussion based on excerpts from the CBC Massey Lecture podcasts and the book written by Tanya Talaga, brought approximately 60 people to St. Paul’s United Church on Friday Feb. 15 from 7:00 - 9:00. The discussion and number of participants indicated a real interest in changing attitudes toward the Indigenous. Kudos to all who organized this! (Susan Laing and her husband put together excerpts of the Massy Lectures - thank you to Susan and Brian!) Also special thanks to Barb Carpio (daughter of an Indian Agent) who helped facilitate.
- This evening (above) was sponsored by TRC Calls to Action Group (a combination of Dundas Churches who participate - all churches are welcome to join or participate.)

6 New Business: None

7 Announcements:

- Sunday Mar. 3 @ 7:00 pm - Dundas Baptist/Grace Valley/Community Life Churches are sponsoring ‘Over 18’ Documentary on the harmful effects of Pornography and Resources for help. This event will be held at Dundas Baptist Church - all are welcome!
- Fri. Mar. 1/19 - St. Paul’s United Musical Showcase - all welcome (free event)
- Many churches have Pancake suppers/dinners etc on Tuesday, Mar. 5, 2019
- Friday, Mar. 1, 2019 - World Day of Prayer - 2:00 pm at St. Mark’s United Church.
- Peter Davison (St James Anglican) tells us that a new priest should be in place after Easter 2019

8 Courtesies and Adjourn:

Peter Davison moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:14 PM. Nellie Noack closed our meeting with prayer. Thank you to Salvation Army for their hospitality!

NEXT MEETING - Thursday, March 28, 2019 @ 7:00 PM at Knox Presbyterian Church - 23 Melville St., Dundas