

**Association of Dundas Churches
Dundas Baptist Church
January 31, 2019**

Present:

Dundas Baptist - Shawn Erb, Karl Armstrong

Christ Church Flamborough - Rosemary Horsewood, Margaret Monds, Sue Nicholls

Christian Science - Marjorie Verhoeven

Grace Valley - Paul Vanden Brink

Knox Presbyterian - Penny Garrison

Life Community - Duane Henry

St. Augustines Catholic -

St. James Anglican - Peter Davison, Anne Washington, Norma Coe

St. Mark's United -

St. Paul's United - Mary Anne Tangney

Salvation Army - Nellie Noack,

Regrets: Dorothy Bartalos (St. Mark's United), Yvonne Wilson, Bob Love (St. Augustines Catholic), Kim Gumbert (Dundas Baptist), Rene van der Meijden (Ellen Osler Home), Helen Prior, Susan Laing (St. Paul's United), Wayne Poole (Knox Presbyterian)

1 Opening: Chair, Shawn Erb welcomed everyone on this very cold evening & opened our meeting with prayer at 7:05.

2 Minutes: *Move that the minutes of the November 22, 2018 meeting be approved as distributed (Peter Davison/Nellie Noack). Carried.*

3 Correspondence:

- Thank you cards to Guest Speakers (Nov./18 mtg), Laura Turnbull & Jennifer Morritt (HFHT)
- Congratulations to Volunteer Grace Dumayne (Christ Church Flamborough)
- Card of Condolence to Susan Laing (St. Paul's United) - loss of her Dad
- Letter to Routes with Christmas Donation (\$500.)
- Email, letter and Thank You card from Routes Youth Centre in receipt of donation.
- Email Correspondence from Canadian Council of Churches - CCC's 75th year Anniversary

4 Business Arising:

4a 2018 Advent Walk:

- Consensus - the Advent Walk went very well overall. Approximately 300 - 350 people attended. 2nd Sunday of Advent proved advantageous - more time to advertise and avoid early Dec. activities. 2019 - Dec. 8th - will try this again next year.
- Singing from church to church did **not** work...possibly explore a joint-church choir group leading the pilgrimage for next year.
- Volunteers needing assistance with costumes - person(s) delegate to assist next year.
- Collection of Monies from each church - FAILED....we need to promote and organize this better next year! After churches receipted donors, the monies should have come to a specific church/site (DBC?), picked up by ADC Treasurer (noted) and taken to our allocated donation site (Salvation Army Food Bank) along with a letter of thanks from ADC. Any outstanding amounts collected by the churches at this point, should be given to Marjorie Verhoeven (ADC Treasurer) who will tally and take to Salvation Army accompanied by a letter of thanks. Sue Nicholls will contact St. Augustines (members not present at this meeting) to inform them.

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4b Membership Survey Results -

Survey results (numbers) were reviewed by Executive (Mtg Jan. 7, 2019) The Outcomes were read out by Chair, Shawn Erb (**See Attachment to these minutes) Some discussion followed:

- Ministerial is strong - clergy like each other, meet regularly, work together well.
- Lay representation is weak (many churches are under-represented or no representative) - this needs to improve in 2019.
- Years ago we adopted a theme 'Poor No More' where focus was on poverty - events were focused around this topic - Can we do this again? What outstanding theme would we centre on today 2019?
- Build more 'community' between churches - recent 'Celebration of Prayer' was a good start - possibly do this again? Our up-coming Lenten Lunches definitely achieve some level of community. Joint Church Choir for Advent Walk? Also talked about: a Newsletter featuring events/happenings of all the churches? Testimonies by those agencies/individuals who have benefited by ADC donations/works?

4c Joint Prayer Time "Celebration of Prayer" (January 23, 2019) Report:

Overall this event went better than we thought it might - weather was poor (extreme cold/recent snow storm), yet approximately **75** people came out to St. Augustines church. Kudos to Nellie Noack whose idea and organization spurred this event forward.

- Donations: Approximately \$40.00 donated - *Move that \$40.00 donated at the 'Celebration of Prayer' be added to our Advent Walk monies collected & donated to Salvation Army Food Bank. (Sue Nicholls/Penny Garrison) Carried.*
- This donation (above) will be directed to Treasurer, Marjorie Verhoeven and along with an ADC covering letter, be sent to Salvation Food Bank.
- Sound System/Fan system affected the acoustics for the Celebration of Prayer - speakers could have used lecturn/pulpit mic - sound was better
- Music, Organist was good - a joint choir would have been excellent at this event.
- Timing - Sunday vs mid-week evening? Possibly do this again, different time of year? Fall/ end of September?
- Theme could be from the many resources of Canadian / World Council of Churches?
- Entertaining Angels - up to Executive next year to bring back (or not) this exchange of members to bring greetings from other churches.

4d 50th Anniversary of the Association of Dundas Churches (Committee) - Sue Nicholls, Margaret Monds, Norma Coe, Shawn Erb - ex officio). An excellent, well researched article appeared in the Dundas Star by Craig Campbell (Dundas Star reporter) entitled, 'Association of Dundas Churches Celebrates 50 Years'. This article was sent out to all members (by secretary). Rosemary Horwood (Communications) had been in touch with Dundas Star re: Advent Walk and had mentioned ADC 50th Anniversary. Rosemary will write a letter of thanks for such a well written article to Craig Campbell, Dundas Star.

- Sue Nicholls asked the group, 'Why not a big party?' A casual, come-as-you-are get together, inviting Routes Youth Centre, Dundas Community Services, Salvation Army Food Bank, Community Dinner people, all the groups affiliated with ADC in the past, our congregations - all sharing in 'food' (whatever form that would take)
- Location? Lions Memorial Community Centre would accommodate many - or outside - Dundas Driving Park (problems from past) Paul Vanden Brink will look at booking the Driving Park possibly the end of September 2019 - Joint Worship?? All to be further explored!

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5 Reports:

5a Treasurer's Report - Treasurer, Marjorie Verhoeven reports a current balance of \$1403.00
Motion to accept the Treasurers Report (Marjorie Verhoeven/Penny Garrison) Carried.

5b Communications -

- Rosemary Horwood will get flyers out to community/churches about the upcoming Lenten Lunches. She will also look into Eccles Sign board, DCS signboard (availability), and the Lions Memorial Community Centre digital board. *Motion to approve renting Lions Memorial Community Centre sign board for advertisement of 2019 Lenten Lunches (Rosemary Horwood/Margaret Monds) Carried.*

5c Community Dinners - No Report

5d Food Bank - No Report (Chair/Secretary to call Salvation Army prior to monthly mtg.)

5e Ellen Osler House -

- Nellie Noack reports that Christmas was very good for the women at Ellen Osler - Grace Valley church members came to the house to celebrate on Christmas Day!
Nellie N. read several letters of thanks from the residents.
- Dressers needed for women's bedrooms

5f Routes Youth Centre -

- Annual Fundraiser Dinner/Silent Auction will be held Friday, Feb. 22, 2019 at the Dundas Valley Golf & Curling Club at 6pm (dinner at 7pm) - Tickets are available by calling Routes Youth Centre 905-292-0572.

5g Dundas Community Services -

- Frozen meals sales are going strong - Need Volunteers to deliver weekly orders!
- Theatre Night Fund Raiser was cancelled - lack of sales.
- Feb. 25, 2019 Lunch and Learn - Topic: 'How To Get Up Off The Floor With Ease' - at Dundas Museum

5h EcoWham -

- Environment Hamilton will present on Feb.13 at 7 pm at St. Paul's United Church how Bill 66 will endanger our environment risking loss of farmland and pollution from toxic substances (a successful push by public has nixed part of this bill - hoping to continue this public outcry to stop this Omnibus bill.)

5j Truth and Reconciliation Committee -

- Rosemary Horwood told us about "All Our Relations" Discussion being held on Fri. Feb. 15, 2019 at 7-9pm at St. Paul's United Church. This book, written by Tanya Talaga does not have to be read as excerpts from the CBC Massey Lecture podcasts will be played - Discussion will centre on excerpts.
- This evening (above) is sponsored by TRC Calls to Action Group (a combinations of Dundas Churches who participate - all churches are welcome to join or participate.)

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6 New Business:

6a Executive Meeting (Jan. 15, 2019)

- Chair, Shawn Erb reported on the Executive meeting - An idea coming out of the 2019 Survey was that appointed ambassador(s) from the ADC bring greetings to the churches to promote 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. Would clergy be comfortable with this happening? Time will be allotted at the next Ministerial (Feb. 21, 2019) for discussion.

6b Lenten Lunches 2019

- Discussed at Ministerial - Theme will be 'Journey Into Life' John 10:10 ('I came so they may have life and have it abundantly' (NRSV) All details for churches working together and schedules will be sent out in a few days in a separate communication.
- Offerings/Donations will go to St. Joseph's Hospice
- Advertisement: *Motion to rent the digital sign (Lions Memorial Community Centre) for Lenten Lunches (Rosemary Horsewood/Margaret Monds) Carried.* (Mentioned above under 5b Communications)
- Rosemary will also book Eccles Sign and check availability of the DCS sign

6c Ministerial Leadership -

- Penny Garrison announced that she will take a leadership role with Ministerial (coordinating and organizing the group)

6d Joint Choir -

- This idea came out of the 2019 Survey....on specific occasions (Advent Walk, etc). Would need a Music Director to take the lead. Good idea but would it work? One Director, singers from various churches would join together for practices before a specific event (ie Celebration of Prayer). Churches will run this idea past their Music Director's to see if there would be interest.

6e Federal Election 2019

- Chair Shawn Erb has contacted Dundas Works to ask if they would like to work collaboratively on a Candidates Meeting before the next Federal Election (Oct/Nov/2019). Their next meeting is Feb. 21 - to discuss and will respond after that time.

7 Announcements:

- Every Wednesday 12 - 2 — Soup Social at Grace Valley 11 King St. E. (Posters distributed)
- Over 18: A Documentary About Porn - March 3, 2019 7:00 pm at Dundas Baptist Church sponsored by Dundas Baptist, Grace Valley, Life Community Church (Posters distributed)
- St. James Anglican - Retreat offered - Steve Bell (Musician/Poet/Songwriter) Feb. 8 from 9:00 - 3:30 - Reflection on his Christian Faith. Will preach at St. James worship on Feb. 10
- Knox Presbyterian - End of Life Series - Monday Feb. 11 at 3:00 pm
- St. Paul's United - Art Sale: Art & sculpture - Sat. Feb. 9 at 2-4 on 3rd Floor Admission: Free

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Peter Davidson informed us that a short list has been struck for a new priest at St James Anglican church - A new priest should be in place after Easter 2019.

8 Courtesies and Adjourn: Marjorie Verhoeven moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 PM. Penny Garrison closed our meeting with prayer. Thank you to Dundas Baptist Church for their hospitality!

NEXT MEETING - Thursday, February 28, 2019 @ 7:00 PM at Salvation Army, 150 King St. W. Dundas