

**Nashwaaksis United Church**  
**Council Meeting**  
**December 13, 2011**

A meeting of the Council of Nashwaaksis United was held on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, with the following persons in attendance: Rev. J. D. Kennedy; Priscilla Geisterfer; Harold McLeod; Ian Gilchrist; Bob Andrews; Winnie Bates; Jeanie Whitehead; Bonnie Crandlemere; Lola Crawford; Maureen O'Hara; Shirley Gourley; Janice Anderson; Jackie Saunders; Krista MacMillan; Keith Traer; Paul Smith; and Linda Dunham.

The meeting opened with prayer by Priscilla. The minutes of the November 8, 2011 Council meeting were approved as circulated.

**Dream Team update:**

Chair, Paul, reported that the Dream Team has become active again. They will present a proposal with costs at the January 2012 Council meeting. There will be more detailed information provided to the Congregation by late January with a decision to be made at the Annual Meeting. The Finance Committee will offer their perspective as well. A decision to go/no go ahead with the plan will be held at the Annual Meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

**Annual Reports and Meeting:**

***The deadline for all Annual Reports to be into the office is JANUARY 13, 2012. The Annual Meeting is to be held on February 19, 2012.***

**Items from last Annual Meeting:**

- a) The structure of Council – Council Executive has not met since April 2011.
- b) Recruitment process - how does each Committee recruit their members?
- c) Should there be a past-chair or vice-chair?

**Reports:**

**Rev. J. D.:** Rev. J. D. reported that church attendance has seen an increase. There will be a service on Christmas Day in the chapel at 1:30 pm. He will begin a sermon series on January 15, 2012 entitled, "*What Matters Most in Life*". It's a 4-week Sunday sermon series in which 4 truths are discussed to help us focus our lives in what truly matters in life and reduce the overload. Rev. J. D. mentioned that the Cantata which was held this past Sunday was very well done. He reported that he and Joe had delivered the "white gifts" of food to the Food Bank. A Congregational Letter has been mailed.

Priscilla: Priscilla reported that the workshop on Godly Play with Janice McLean from Maritime Conference office went very well. She extended a special thanks to those who had made props for this new program. There are concerns over the two rooms designated for Godly Play. Priscilla would like to use the chapel and room 115. Discussion will be held with Ken Lawson with regard to this move.

Worship: Jeanie reported that their Committee recommends 2 slight changes to the Marriage Policy. The first change is under the title, "who may be married". This will now read, "we understand marriage to be a spiritual covenant between a woman and a man." The second change will be the fee for the custodian. This will increase from \$75.00 to \$100.00 It was agreed by Council to go along with these changes. The Committee will discuss if an additional sentence will be added that new members are always welcome. Training was held on operating the screen during Sunday services. If you are available to help, please call Heather Brannon at 450-8764 or email her at [hbrannon@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:hbrannon@nb.sympatico.ca).

A music night will be held in February (TBA). Jeanie thanked Priscilla for the Advent guide she prepared; as well, half of the Advent candles were sold. A counter has been purchased and is being used each Sunday by the ushers. There are some positive results from the ministry fair which has been conducted from the pulpit by the various Committees.

Christian Education: Maureen reported that the Advent candles raised \$369. The youth have purchased 12 nights at the Shelter. A three-part workshop on Acceptance for youth grade 6 and up has just finished. There are plans to have a workshop on drumming in the new year. The youth will usher the last Sunday of each month. The Extreme Team will have a celebration on December 23<sup>rd</sup> as well as ushering and taking part in the Christmas services.

Family Night: Krista reported that after having a break this fall, Family Night will host a pool night on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Their group is hoping for some renewed enthusiasm as the new year begins. If anyone has ideas they would like to share with this group, please contact Krista at [kcsmb@bellaliant.net](mailto:kcsmb@bellaliant.net).

Pastoral Care: Janice reported that their Committee has been contacting congregants with regard to updating addresses, phones numbers, etc. – a very pleasant though time-consuming effort. Visitation lists are being prepared but visitors are still required. Their members are volunteering to help porter York Manor residents to the communion service each month. There is a need to help people in our congregation with drives for groceries and appointments. Contact Janice (444-8002) or sign-up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board if you have some spare time.

Outreach: Lola reported their Committee is hosting an anniversary dinner for the tenants of the John Howard Building on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>. The men will provide a sing-song at the event. The Community Kitchen provides meals to their building weekly.

Finance: Chair, Ian, reported that the total offerings for November of this year are higher than the same month in 2010 for the General, Capital, and M&S Funds by \$1,865. The expenditures in the General and Capital Fund for the first 11 months of 2011 are lower than budgeted. It is anticipated that they will break even by the end of the year. The Stewardship Program was kicked off on November 6<sup>th</sup> with Rev. J. D. and Priscilla presenting sermons on the value they give to NUC. This was followed by short presentations to the Congregation on successive Sundays by members of the various committees. The Stewardship Program will start again on Sunday, Feb. 5, 2012. Their Christmas letter to the Congregation was issued on Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>. Two new desk-top computers, plus a colour printer for the offices has been supplied, installed and commissioned.

Harold McLeod, after 25 years of stellar service as NUC Treasurer, would like to relinquish this job. Karen Vautour has volunteered to take over as Treasurer. The Finance Committee has agreed that she should have signing authority on financial matters – for example, cheques, etc.

It was ***moved*** by Ian Gilchrist, ***seconded*** by Jackie Saunders, that Council gives the authority to Karen Vautour, Harold McLeod, and Ian Gilchrist to sign financial documents on behalf of Nashwaaksis United Church. ***Motion Carried.***

Property: Chair, Keith, reported that part of the roof will have to be re-shingled. He also reported that there will be no more suppers put on by the group of men who have been doing them for years.

M & P: Shirley Gourley reported that the yearly staff reviews are on-going at this time.

UCW: Winnie reported that the UCW in conjunction with the Pastoral Care and Outreach Committees are conducting their annual Christmas visitation and delivering of treats. The UCW will usher in January. They are continuing to put monies in their dishwasher fund. The UCW collected \$300 in pennies for M&S.

Presbytery: The most recent meeting of Presbytery was held in Harvey. It was reported by Presbytery Rep, Jackie Saunders, that Camp Woolastook, the United Church Camp, is in need of major repairs.

**Other Business:**

**The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**, following the service. A note to this effect will be placed in the bulletins of Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

Krista MacMillan reported that the JNAC will present a report to the February 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. A Congregational meeting might possibly be held prior to the Annual Meeting on February 19, 2012.

Shirley Gourley reported that two Venturers will be attending the Jamboree in Haliburton in July. If anyone wants to support these Venturers, it would be very much appreciated.

Linda thanked all those who helped prepare the Congregational letter for mailing.

**It was also brought to the attention of Council that doors are being left unlocked after the building is vacated. A reminder to everyone who uses our facility, please lock the door after your group is finished, even though you know someone is still in the building.**

Mittens from the Mitten Tree in the Lobby will be distributed to families we are helping at Christmas and the rest will be given to the Fredericton Boys & Girls Club.

**Next Meeting: January 10, 2012 – 7:00 pm in the Parlour.**

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Linda Dunham, Secretary

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Paul Smith, Council Chair