

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

A Council meeting was held on Tuesday, September 13, 2011 with the following persons present: Rev. J. D. Kennedy; Priscilla Geisterfer; Paul Smith; Ian Gilchrist; Harold McLeod; Ken Lawson; Terry Christie; Shirley Gourley; Keith Traer; Eva Colpitts; Lynn Smith; Donna Dykeman; Heather Brannon; Stephanie Brannon; Maureen O'Hara; Winnie Bates; Krista MacMillan; Jeanie Whitehead; Jack Patterson; and Linda Dunham.

Rev. J. D. opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes of the June 7<sup>th</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup> meetings were approved as circulated. The August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved as amended.

**Job Description Report:** Terry Christie reported on behalf of the Ministry & Personnel Committee. Terry explained that their Committee was asked to address the job description and the responsibilities of the Faith Development Coordinator and whether that position is restricted to an ordained position. A copy of the report was distributed to those in attendance.

It was agreed by Council that this job description as presented by the M&P Committee be brought forward to the Congregation to establish a JNAC (Joint Needs Assessment Committee) which will then report their findings to the Congregation. ***A Congregational Meeting was set for October 2, 2011 following the service.***

**Reports From Committees**

**Worship:** Chair, Jeanie Whitehead, reported that the Baptism Policy was completed in June and is ready to be brought to Council Executive at their next meeting. Thanks also to the many people who helped make Rev Mary and Bob's farewell into quite a party.

The Worship Committee will be decorating for Thanksgiving. Overhead Projector and Screen which is new to the congregation is great! **Note:** **Heather Brannon requires more volunteers to operate the projector and screen.** Jeanie mentioned that Stephanie Brannon and Maureen O'Hara have done a great job on the website.

**Christian Education:** Priscilla Geisterfer, our Faith Formation Coordinator, explained that the new Grow Zone program called ***Godly Play*** is an interactive program which uses small props. It began on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The children will eventually tell some of the stories they are learning. The program is for ages four to twelve. Maureen has posted a flyer on the website about Godly Play.

Maureen reported that the **WEBSITE** is still under construction, but it is much more current than just a month ago. Stephanie has been working very hard to publish and maintain our online presence. We encourage everyone to take a look and offer suggestions ([www.nashwaaksisunited.ca](http://www.nashwaaksisunited.ca)). We ask all committees to submit any information they would like to see on the site about their committee, such as their mandate, special events, pictures, etc. The **calendar for the month of September** for special events has been posted throughout the building and is available online now!

**Youth Choir:** Maureen spoke about a new idea for a youth choir this fall. All school-aged children (age 7 and up) are invited to prepare a musical production that will be presented in the spring for our faith family and the greater community. Notices have been sent to the other churches in the area. The first get-together will be held on **Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary.** Practices thereafter will be held beginning October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

**Family Night:** Krista MacMillan reported that their group is just starting up for the fall. They will be hosting the Table For Two event on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, along with the Extreme Team. In October, they will have a potluck and sports night. They are looking for volunteers to come up with ideas for November and December.

**Pastoral Care:** Newsletters have been prepared and those which haven't been picked up will be mailed to the Congregation.

**Outreach:** Jack Patterson reported that a Soup & Sandwich luncheon will be held following the service on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, in support of the Mission and Service Fund. In an effort to reach out further into the community, Jack will speak with Paula Seely with regards to the Hawkins/Neville community. The "benevolent help" Wednesday morning gathering has now been operating for seven months. A total of 31 different individuals have attended with an average of 8 individuals per month. At the August meeting, the need for additional help for school supplies became evident. The Outreach Committee met just before the Council meeting to discuss how they can be of greater assistance to disadvantaged people – in particular single parents.

**Finance:** Ian Gilchrist, Chair, reported that the total offerings for June, July, and August of this year were higher than the same months in 2010 for the General Fund, Capital Fund, and M&S Fund by \$1,888.00. The total offerings from January to the end of August are slightly higher than 2010. Our offerings in the General Fund for 8/12ths of the year are lower than our predicted 2011 budget. They are hopeful with people returning from summer vacations and special Thanksgiving and Christmas offerings that they will meet their budget.

Expenditures in the General Fund for the first 8 months of 2011 are lower than budgeted.

The Capital Fund budget for 2011 included the supply and installation of the office air conditioning, parlour window replacement, and stained glass window repairs. The office air conditioning has been installed and fully paid. The Property Committee has decided to put off the parlour window replacement and stained glass window repairs until next year. As a result, there should be a small surplus in the Capital Fund. The Committee plans to place a Special Thanksgiving Offering envelope in the pews the Sunday before Thanksgiving with a note in the bulletin asking the Congregation for their financial support. Planning for the Stewardship Program as it relates to finances is ongoing.

**Property:** Programmable thermostats are to be installed soon. A Harvest Supper is planned for October 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Board of Trustees:** Ken Lawson reported that the Y after-school program has commenced. Due to the opening of the new Y being delayed, the Y Daycare in our church will not begin until November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Ministry & Personnel:** Shirley Gourley reported that their Committee will fine-tune J. D.'s job description in the coming months.

**UCW:** Winnie Bates reported that the UCW has prepared several receptions. Together with the Prayer Breakfast group, they have purchased a new freezer for the kitchen. The UCW wishes to remind the Congregation to save their "Pennies for Missions" in the month of November.

**Presbytery:** A meeting of Presbytery will be held in Woodstock on Thursday, September 22, 2011. Harold McLeod reported that the offering collected at the recent Covenanting Service for Rev. J. D. Kennedy amounted to approximately \$200.00 which goes to the Mission & Service Fund.

**Other Business:**

Linda Dunham reported that she will prepare the remaining newsletters this week for mailing. Special events for the fall will be listed in upcoming bulletins.

***The next full meeting of Council is slated for October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the parlour with a presentation of a Godly Play story by Priscilla Geisterfer.***

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Linda Dunham, Secretary

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Paul Smith, Council Chair