

What We Are Taking Home! Spring Presbytery 2016

Appreciations

- good food
- great hospitality
- accommodations great
- book displays
- good tips to use in worship and pastoral charges
- great singing
- gratitude over handling sudden need for replacement of speaker
- the usual: music, food, singing, hospitality
- caring for special diets
- great sense of hospitality
- good attention to dietary needs
- great hosting – food
- agenda – offering extra time for appreciation of site
- good food
- Don's "hat"
- generous outpouring of money by St. David's by the Lake
- 2 pounds from food
- lots of opportunity for conversation
- delicious turkey dinner
- hospitality
- Ken Jones as Chair – his ability to "go with the flow"
- energy of lay people
- Chair's presence/style
- book displays
- very good displays

Relationships

- coming home – used to live here
- see the lake again – used to vacation here
- friendship
- sense of connections
- networking with others
- a sense of support from colleagues
- support from other presbyters
- new connections
- getting acquainted
- caring for each other
- met lots of new people; support from other presbyters

Music & Worship

- great music
- worship very meaningful this year
- music was great
- good music
- appreciation of worship theme – the Creed – hearing respective churches stand as they are called
- great music
- worship around the Creed
- new ways to pray for and uplift other congregations (happy and sad)
- liked Creedal Litany, circle grace
- shruti box
- youth's grace
- wonderful music ministry!
- worship around the Creed
- shruti box

The Work of Presbytery This Weekend

- working unit working well
- Ivy's cards
- Ian Fraser's report on quorum
- Seven people came to Stewardship Working Unit!
- these papers on what we're taking home
- enough time for sharing
- Virtue Cards (Ivy's)
- in depth discussions
- learning from other congregations
- explanation of quorum
- experiences shared with other shared ministries in working unit
- enjoyed "getting to know you" exercises with Ivy's cards
- for new delegates, better idea how Presbytery works
- good discussions regarding shared ministry: what is working; what may be worth trying; different ways of functioning
- loved the Virtue Project cards
- the talking circle process with candle and talking pieces
- explanation of the quorum

Information about the Work of the Church

- sharing what is happening in other congregations
- enjoyed the Mount Paul and St. David's by the Lake presentations
- good message from LeAnn Blackert: "Don't give up."
- how congregations adapt to stress
- excitement about coming events:
 - Kelowna – Peter Rollins
 - Vernon – Holy Shift
 - Kamloops – celebrations that Bruce Comrie reported will be happening in May

- teddy bear jar
- presentations by St. David's by the Lake and St. Mary's
- Mount Paul's excitement of new reality
- lots of good fund raising ideas
- good presentations by the congregations
- Presentation from St. David's by the Lake in Celista – the way they are doing ministry
- interest and excitement over Holy Shift Conference
- appreciation for presentations by LeAnn Blackert and St. David's by the Lake
- Kairos petition information
- reports from Mount Paul, Kamloops and St. David's by the Lake, Celista
- Holy Shift event in Vernon
- Mount Paul and St. David's by the Lake presentations
- Holy Shift announcement
- Celebration of near completion of Kamloops United
- MacKenzie Camp video
- exploring ways of being pastoral charges; sharing
- camp report
- Holy Shift
- Peter Rollins event
- Mount Paul and St. David's by the Lake presentations
- Holy "Shift"

BC Conference and General Council

- ability to discuss aspects of new structure of the United Church and hear different opinions
- greater articulation of where we are going
- helpful information (process and status of Comprehensive Review)
- information from Ian Fraser about the Representative on BC Conference Executive
- Comprehensive Review presentation – given a lot to think about
- the 4 to 3 presentation from the consultation
- appreciation of conversation at our table about the Comprehensive Review
- progress on remits, ie 4 to 3 courts
- hope for this United Church of ours
- "Take Action" section of the United Church of Canada website
- confusion from "wording" in changing of the number of courts in the General Council Report
- 4/3 consultation
- looking forward to information on the remit

Curiosities and Concerns

- some level of frustration
- concern over vacancies (pulpit)
- challenge for congregants to go to Holy Shift
- prayers for St. Paul's, Kelowna
- challenged by discussion regarding restructuring (4 to 3)
- challenged by meeting space
- looking ahead to restructuring to be completed