

Background on Amalgamation

2014

- Spring: Informal conversation at Smugglers Cove with St. Aidan (St A) and Gordon Head United Church (GHUC) leaders
- Dec: Tri-church advent gathering at Cadboro Bay United Church (CBUC)
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2015

- Jan-Feb: Proposal from CBUC Board to GHUC for Amalgamation and Care taking designed
- Mar 1: Proposal shared at CBUC at AGM and affirmed by congregation to proceed
- Apr-Aug: Cleaning up and sorting GHUC property, paperwork and taking over admin
- Sept: Victoria Presbytery declares GHUC and CBUC to be amalgamated
- Dec: Last Sunday Service in GHUC
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2016

- Jan-Apr: Wednesday afternoon services and tea at GHUC
- Apr: St A's takes over this ministry to seniors and combines it with their Senior program to create "Happy Hour"
- July-Aug: Remedial renovations to GHUC property to prepare for Arts Calibre renting full days all year long
- Sept: GHUC Parents and Tots program moves to St A's
- Fall: Relationship building with St A's resumes
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2017

- April: Revision proposal for both councils to consider doing together is discussed and affirmed
- May-Aug: Revision teams and leadership recruited, and work begun
- Sept-Nov: Mixed small groups of 160 people from both congregations meet
- Nov: Summit #1a meets at St A's to share insights and some possible directions moving forward
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2018

- Jan: Summit #1b meets at CBUC to deepen insights and create 5 major focus groups and 3 sub- groups
- Jan-May: Focus groups meet, research and discern
- May: Summit #2 meets at CBUC for focus groups to report findings and recommendations. Timelines for integration proposed and motion is affirmed by those gathered. Cordova Bay joins us to observe. Revision process ends
- Aug-Dec: Joint councils meet for the first time, to sort out how they might relate to each other, build relationships and trust and figure out strategy for ways forward. These include:
- Creating 3 working groups to research and make recommendations (Asset Management, Pragmatic and Social Enterprise)
 - Work together on sharing program offerings and first joint program booklet created
 - Joint Stewardship initiative with shared research about demographics and income streams
 - Joint Application for Provision Grant is begun, and consultant hired
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Background on Amalgamation

2019

Jan-May:

- Three working groups begin their work together to research, discern, struggle and prepare to make recommendations.
- Grant application is made, sent back for clarification and resubmitted again with revisions
- Congregational AGMs at both places vote to put \$50,000 each toward the vision of “From Neighbourhood to Regional: a new platform for a 21st Century Church” and the general direction and vision is affirmed
- Congregations work to clean up membership roles and adherents’ lists

June:

Working groups share insights and thoughts about next steps to joint council gathering at Sunday afternoon retreat. Joint council meets 3 times that month to discern next steps for summer action and implementation for the fall. New timeline is created and shared with congregations

Summer:

Small group conversations in both congregations in a variety of formats exploring concepts of church outside the box and possible implications of an amalgamation

Sept-Nov:

- Joint council sets a date for Amalgamation vote of Nov 24 and criterion for adherents list and membership lists for voting. These lists are posted in each congregation on Sept 15
 - Congregational meetings called for Sept 22 and Oct 27 in advance of the vote
 - Joint council creates an Advisory subgroup to guide the work of amalgamation and make proposals to council and congregation as appropriate
 - Consultants interviewed to guide some of the processes involved now and, in the future,
 - Social enterprise initiatives being researched and pursued on a number of fronts
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