

Transition Team Presentation and Discussion June 16, 2019



Introduction:

Rosemary Pryde reported to the congregation what the Transition Team has been working on, what its roadmap would address across nine major tasks and over the next 12 months. She asked for any questions, following the presentation.

Questions posed from the floor were:

1. Can we identify the months during which each of the sessions will take place, so that people can plan their timetables? Answer: not yet; much of that would be planned and scheduled over the summer.
2. Can we start engaging people in preparing for the Research findings before the end of the year? Answer: we are considering how best to do that...
3. Can we measure the extent of engagement we are achieving with our community (internal and external) along with the way? Answer: we will be able to do that in most cases.

Rosemary then posed a question to the room, asking them to divide into small groups to answer, and then report their conclusions to everyone. She asked people to identify the 2-3 contributions that members of the congregation should most make (individually and collectively) to the success of the Transition. Their small group answers were as follows:

- Be engaged – this is both a responsibility and a right for everyone – by:
 - Reading every document made available through the transition process
 - Asking any questions as they come up of anyone involved in the Transition work
 - Speaking out – about what they like and about what concerns them
- **Note that we need to be aware of/track the level of engagement we are achieving**
- Have an open mind
- Be open to change
- Trust our volunteers (e.g., each other)
- Be optimistic and supportive – committing to move forward!
- Do more to get young people involved
- Promote attendance at our sessions across a wide, diverse group:
 - We should all attend every session we can
 - We should schedule the sessions at different times, so some people aren't excluded from most events
 - If we attend, we should all be messengers to tell others we know in the congregation what happened

- Use conversations during worship services to talk about our transition
- We need to free those who wonder whether they contributed in some way to the conflict that led to this Transition:
 - Spread understanding, not blame or guilt
 - Move into 2020 'guilt-free'
 - Encourage 'anyone now (or still)rumbling' about an issue to speak to Douglas
- Lead off the September services with Rosemary introducing the "Ways you can be involved" slide
- Publicize the work of Transition with a dedicated part of the website where all materials are made available, as well as being accessible in printed form at the back of the sanctuary