

The Future Planning Group – Projects in Development – HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The Future Planning Group is currently delivering the second of its major commitments, to launch 12 projects which live out the defined vision of the church.

To date, the FPG has delivered five of those projects:

- 1. Welcome Back BBQ with Renters Fair: *delivered Sept 16, 2018***
- 2. Volunteers' 'Thank-you' Event: *delivered May 26, 2019 (@ 151 Lakeshore)***
- 3. Property Planning Ministry: *launched June, 2019***
- 4. Neighbour Care Network: *launched July, 2019***
- 5. Community Roundtables Event: *delivering Oct 23, 2019 (@ 151 Lakeshore)***

The following projects are currently in development and are actively seeking people interested in bringing these to life – please contact the people listed for each project, or shawnbausch@hotmail.com, to get involved:

Wellness & Concern Group

This project is a modification to the Parish Nurse, which was a popular “wish list” project during the congregational round-tables in May/June of 2018.

The Wellness and Concern Group fosters connections for our congregants, promotion of services in the community and a linking to already existing programs and health education.

There is an increasing awareness of gaps in support and care for members our church and general communities. Those suffering from mental illness, frequent depression, failing physical health and mobility and loneliness are the hardest hit. In speaking with other churches such as St. Bride's and Clarkson Presbyterian Church there is a general sense that professional services and expertise in areas of treatment and services is available in our community, this issue is more related to the lack of knowledge of these services and how to access them. There are programs run by other churches that we could and should promote as a means to support our own congregants (such as Mental health Education and First Aid at Clarkson Road Presbyterian this November). In turn, CF can and should offer our programs such as the defibrillation workshops and gentle yoga class to them. As well, crisis care is being created under Morar's guidance in the Neighbour Care Network .

A Wellness and Concern Group fosters connections for our congregants, promotion of services in the community and a linking to already existing programs and health education. The group would:

- Use health education to raise awareness within the church community
- Communicate the existing programs at the church and other churches
- Maintain current knowledge of the resources in the community

Pillars served: Community, Strong Connections with Members

Contact: Heather McGillis, hammcgillis@gmail.com

Youth Service Project(s) & Presentations

Activities designed or held by churches often struggle to engage youth. The Youth Service Project or Youth Presentations would ask younger people what engages them in these areas and give them the support to develop and bring a project to life, or make a presentation to the church on a topic or experience of their choosing. Examples include speaker Sam Demma, who spoke at Port Credit in May, 2019 about his experience becoming a professional public speaker, or the Chase-the-Chill outreach project, which involved youth in trekking downtown in December to deliver warm clothing to people living on the street. More ambitious projects could include sponsoring youth for Mission Travel, such as trips to Haiti to build schools and houses.

Pillars Served: Community, Stronger Connection with Members

Contact: Teresa Madiera, tmadiera_23@rogers.com

Speaker Series

The church is a meeting place. A speaker series would help increase community engagement by attracting people to attend an event at the church who wouldn't ordinarily attend our services. In addition, the series could help position Christ First and the United Church of Canada as modern organizations that combine faith and advocacy for social justice issues. The Speaker Series would target the people of Clarkson and Port Credit and events would take at both campuses. The program could profile a wide range of current social issues such as climate change, welcoming refugees, ending racism as well as issues important to the local community. Tickets would be sold individually or with the option of paying for the series in advance.

Pillars Served: Community, Strong Connection with Members, Spiritual Development (possible)

Contact: Mary Pare, parerm@sympatico.ca

Caregiver Network

The Caregiver Network is a group of churches and/or other organizations working in concert to deliver care services to those in need within their respective communities. For example, transportation for those with limited mobility to important appointments. The task of identifying those in need and coordinating assistance is performed by designated individuals in each organization. A list of volunteers, maintained by the coordinators, serves as the contact list to match needs with caregivers.

Pillars served: Community, Strong Connection with Members

Contact: Mike Giguere, mgiguere@arrayinc.ca

Anyone who is interested in becoming involved in these projects and unsure of the details can contact the individuals listed or Shawn Bausch at any time: shawnbausch@hotmail.com.