Amalgamation as an opportunity for new life and vitality

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The Living Faith story

From 3-point charge to regional ministry to amalgamation to new house of worship
From regional ministry to amalgamation

- Intentional visioning, using a specific curriculum (growth committee)
- Opportunities for shared ministry (joint services)
- Team ministry
- Cooperative leadership (joint session meetings and congregational meetings)
- Funding from Canadian Ministries
Living Faith today

Community beacon
Refugee sponsorship
Children/Youth ministries
Special needs ministry
Messy Church
Who is God calling you to be?
Community-needs evangelism

Study your community demographics

What are the pressing needs?

How can your congregation respond to those needs?
What is driving your amalgamation project?

It’s all good
Some important considerations

- Discover new, neutral, worship space
- Create a new name for the amalgamated congregation
- Engage in a discernment process to discover your new identity
- Pray!
The legal stuff...

- Create a “Basis of Union”
- Hold several joint congregational meetings – communication is key
- Congregational vote
- Presbytery approval
- Arrange for consistent leadership
An invitation...

Go for it
Questions

• What does your congregation do really well?
• What is the greatest struggle facing your congregation right now?
• Consider your community. What are its greatest needs?
• What’s one way your congregation could creatively meet that need?
Resources

• 12 Keys to an Effective Church by Kennon Callahan
• 1001 New Worshiping Communities – PCUSA
• Missional Map-making by Alan J. Roxburgh
• The Missional Leader by Alan J. Roxburgh & Fred Romanuk