

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



Next steps



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**