

2017: A YEAR IN REVIEW

We sang together “Let us build a house...built of hopes and dreams and visions.” We’ve had courageous conversations, been intentional about change, planned for new and creative possibilities, and continue to put into action the necessary steps to achieve our shared journey.

WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED:

- On January 1, 2018 the Minden and Zion congregations will amalgamate to form the **Highland Hills United Church**.
- This new church will be comprised of one congregation with two buildings to manage. The Trustees have secured insurance for both of the buildings.
- The Highland Hills Pastoral Charge will continue to function as a 2-point charge with Maple Lake United Church and Highland Hills United Church.
- The governance structure has changed with the former Official Board of the Pastoral Charge and the Council of the new Highland Hills United Church combining into one Unified Board. This Board will administer both the Charge and Church affairs, and will include the Chair or representative of the Maple Lake Council as an officer of the Unified Board. All Charge-related committees will also have a Maple Lake representative.
- Officers for the Unified Board, Trustees, and committee members have been approved.
- Financial administration of Minden and Zion are being combined, and a budget will be presented to the new Unified Board in January 2018 for approval.
- The financial records and budget of the Pastoral Charge and Highland Hills UC will be kept separate to ensure transparency for Maple Lake’s participation in the Charge.
- Signing authority for the CIBC & TD banks has been established.
- A building assessment report was completed for the Minden and Zion buildings. It addressed the pros and cons of each building and the requirements to make them accessible. There was no indication of a preference of one building over the other.
- As of January 2018, worship services will be held at **9:30 a.m.** January services will be held at Zion, switch to Minden for February, and will continue to alternate each month. Maple Lake services will be at **11 a.m.**
- We have a new website. Check it out at **highlandhillspc.ca**
- Melissa Stephens will be the Music Director of Highland Hills United Church. Ongoing communication is occurring to utilize all of our musicians in worship services.
- A new photo directory for the Pastoral Charge is coming soon.
- A new outreach project, to assist with poverty reduction in our community, is currently being explored.

As we move forward into the New Year with hope, joy, and faithfulness, we ask you to keep dreaming and share your ideas with the Integration Committee: Lois Deacon, Andy Cooper, Erskine Flook, Jan Heffer, Ross McMullen, Debbie Sherwin.