

Attendees: Rev. Don Sellsted, Vicky Austin, Chris Seymour, Heather Bishop, Dale MacArthur, Jean Illingworth, Cheryl MacDonald, Carol Wooster, Cheryl Sellsted (recording secretary)

Absent: Scott Sweatman

Special Guest Speaker: Homer Noble representative of Kingston/Torbrook Mines/Margaretville United Church Pastoral Charge

Meeting called to Order at 7:01 pm

Rev. Don welcomed and introduced Homer Noble to our meeting and thanked him for his contribution to our Affirming Ministry process.

Rev. Don provided an opening prayer.

Homer provided information and guidance, pros and pitfalls based on his experience through their pastoral charge's affirming process. He concluded and left the meeting at 8:00 pm.

The committee continued the meeting with some sharing and this was precluded with the acknowledgement by all that what was shared within this committee; stayed within this committee and that we all operated within "safe and brave" spaces.

Dale MacArthur and Vicki Austin offered to co-lead the Affirming Committee.

ACTION ITEM No.1

Chris Seymour will write a narrative for the bulletin that will inform the congregation of the committee's activities to date.

ACTION ITEM No.2

Co-leaders will ensure notifications get into the bulletin for a congregational meeting to be held immediately after church to have the Affirming Committee members introduced and to vote on accepting them as an official committee.

ACTION ITEM No.3

Committee members to think about "next steps" going forward and bring to the June meeting so a calendar or timeline can be established.

ACTION ITEM No.4

Rev. Don to prepare an educational component for the committee only, on interpretation of key scriptures that are weaponized by fundamentalist and those that just don't know.

ACTION ITEM No.5

Rev. Don to contact Rev. Joanne McFadden or other Old Testament scholar about leading a congregational workshop on interpretation of scripture.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

**Next Meeting: Monday - June 10, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
OVUC Boardroom**