



## Proposed Merger of:

### Runnymede United Church and Windermere United Church QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Updated April 16

1. What's new? Our next step will be the Congregational Meeting scheduled for Sunday, May 14, at which attendees will be invited to vote on the proposed merger with Windermere United Church. The vote will be held after a shortened service in the Sanctuary. Please be sure to check out the dedicated merger webpage for the most recent information and updates including all Q and A's to date [Merger \(runnymedeunited.org\)](http://runnymedeunited.org)

2. How will a two campus church work?

A two campus church is unusual, so we are charting a new course! Our community of faith name will remain Runnymede United Church. Worship will be centred in the Runnymede sanctuary but worship events could take place in either building. Different events could be held in one, or sometimes, on both campuses. Having two locations allows us to expand the types and numbers of events and activities, continue a presence in Swansea and better serve the community.

3. How will we accommodate traditional services that congregants and the two communities have come to enjoy over the years (Advent services, Easter services etc.)?

The plan is to continue Runnymede traditions regarding Advent, Christmas, Easter and so on, while ensuring we do our best to meet the needs of our larger community. This could include having special worship events at the Windermere campus or in both locations. There are many creative and logistical ways to leverage our two campus presence and we will be planning new activities as part of phase two of the proposed merger. We have begun to think about this but planning in earnest must wait until we have our congregational votes in both congregations and regional approval.

4. Will we be continuing with many of the successful events and fundraising activities we have traditionally been known for (Craft Show, Community Meals, etc.)?

Yes! Our plan is to continue and build upon the many events and fundraising activities we have undertaken in the past at Runnymede, while opening ourselves to the impacts that Windermere has had in Swansea and beyond, and learning from them on how to either expand our events or add new ones.



5. If all is approved, how and to whom can we provide ideas we may have for actions, events, or activities to better move the two congregations into one?

We want your ideas! Please share them with a member of the church Board or send an email to Robin Pilkey ([boardchair@runnymedeunited.org](mailto:boardchair@runnymedeunited.org)). There will be a transition plan that will include getting feedback and input from as many people as possible.

6. Will Windermere congregants be able to start sharing in our information venues such as our Tuesday bulletins and such?

On April 5th, the Windermere congregants received a message, in their regular email bulletin, from Robin Pilkey (Runnymede United Chair) inviting them to get to know Runnymede United better by accessing our website. That access will allow Windermere congregants to view our general information and more importantly, our weekly updates and Q and A's regarding the proposed merger. Should all be approved, Windermere congregants and stakeholders will be added to our mailing lists for Sunday emails with our service outline, our Tuesday email bulletins, any special email editions or notifications.

7. While some of us cannot volunteer directly to support the merger, what can we do to support the process?

Everyone has a part to play in the proposed merger process! Even if you cannot volunteer to be on a team or committee, you can stay informed, ask questions, wear your name tags and be welcoming. That will go a long way to ensure our success.