



Windermere United Church

United Church of Canada



January 10, 2023

Rev. Ted Grady
Runnymede United Church Minister
revted@runnymedeunited.org

Robin Pilkey
Runnymede United Church Council
boardchair@runnymedeunited.org

Re: Amalgamation / Merger Interest with WUC?

[Windermere United Church](#) (WUC) is your neighbour in west end Toronto. We are an Affirming congregation that strongly supports Truth and Reconciliation, social justice and community outreach in our worship and work as followers of Christ in the United Church of Canada since 1912. Through vibrant and faithful leadership during the pandemic, we were able to rally community members to discern and support the needs of countless households during a traumatic time.

Our love for one another and God's world and our passion for outreach has drawn people of diverse backgrounds and faiths to join us in this work of care. Yet losses of leadership and membership during the pandemic have brought us to the point of realizing we are too few in number to continue on our own. We want to find a congregation who will welcome us in partnership through [amalgamation](#) as per United Church guidelines and share our passion for community outreach.

What we have to offer is a financially solvent, rental income-producing [building](#) that houses a dance school, a day care, a few music-lesson rooms, and a sizable sanctuary with additional rooms that we envision becoming a community hub. Affiliations with social agencies and community neighbours indicate there is need for and interest in utilizing these spaces in the service of others. Our property committee members are willing and able to continue oversight of the building in partnership with the congregation that we join.

Windermere has been a leader in social outreach, including ongoing refugee sponsorship agreements, as well as unique outreach ministry called the [Stone Soup Network](#). With a board and director, SSN has recently given outstanding support to the 114 families of the Swansea Mews who were relocated when the housing community was declared unlivable. We want to bring this outreach ministry into our partnership and continue to develop its potential with the partner church.

We seek your prayerful consideration of becoming Windermere's partner in Christ through amalgamation. **The members of the amalgamation group named below are not seeking commitment but some kind of interest response – whether it be definite, moderate or none – by January 31, 2023.** In the meantime, feel free to contact us with questions or for more information.

Sincerely,

Cec Mutton
Amalgamation Steering Group
416-802-3639
Cecmutton@gmail.com

Jennie Keating
Amalgamation Steering Group
416-762-4021
Keating.aj@gmail.com

Janet Petrie
Amalgamation Steering Group
905-897-9589
jpetrie@bell.net