

ALGOMA PRESBYTERY
of The United Church of Canada

August 16, 2012

EXECUTIVE MEETING

2012-13

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Algoma Presbytery Executive met at 12 noon on Thursday, August 16, 2012 at St. Andrew's United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Chair Thom McDonough led the meeting and a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE

Order of Ministry: Nancy Ferguson, Thom McDonough, Eun-Joo Park, Jan Schenell, Helen Smith

Laity: Marnie McDonough, Brian Mundell, Ailsa Hanson

Regrets: Fred Bright, Larry Burton, Wilda Ryckman, Heddys Stevenson, Bill Walker, Clare Walker

OPENING

At 12:07 p.m., Chair Thom McDonough welcomed those gathered, read selected verses from 1 Kings 3, shared a short reflection on discerning and "the examined life", and offered a prayer asking God for wisdom and guidance for The United Church, for General Council and its meetings, and for the group at the table. He called our meeting to order with the following words: *"In the name of Jesus Christ, the one true Head of the Church, and by the authority vested in me as Algoma Presbytery Chair, I now declare this meeting constituted for the transaction of such business as may properly come before it."*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved, seconded and carried that the agenda be adopted.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Moved, seconded and carried that the Presbytery Executive minutes of June 24, 2012 be approved as corrected. (The first point under the Pastoral Relations report should have read: "Brian Mundell reported that Rev. Bruce McLeish (retired) will be covenanted with the Willowgrove congregation as Minister Emeritus. As a minister thus connected to a congregation, he will retain his license to marry.")

CORRESPONDENCE

1. **London Conference President Paul Browning:** Thom McDonough will contact Paul to invite him to visit Algoma Presbytery in November 2012, February 2013 or April 2013.
2. **Bruce Mines/Desbarats Pastoral Charge:** The Executive received from the Board of Trustees of the Bruce Mines/Desbarats Pastoral Charge a letter of notification of purpose, and a certificate asking consent of Presbytery to list their Manse for sale. After discussion it was **moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery gives its consent to the listing for sale of the manse, and directs the Secretary to complete Appendix B: Certification of Secretary of Presbytery to Resolution Giving Consent. (There was one abstention.)

Moved, seconded and carried that the correspondence be accepted as dealt with. (See Appendix A.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MOTIONS FOR ACTION

Finance and Administration: Fred Bright – No report.

Education and Students: Helen Smith

The only item Helen had to note was that Education and Students is still waiting for Andrew Muncaster's final Discernment Committee Report. Thom had an e-mail from Andrew, and he will take that back to the Discernment Committee for consideration.

Faith Formation: Eun-Joo Park

- Eun-Joo reported that 12 people attended the Kempton Hewitt Workshop on the Gospel of Luke at Desbarats United Church; Rev. Dr. Hewitt has agreed to do a session on John's Gospel in 2013 if his health permits.
- There are only five or six youth registered for the Confirmation Camp September 7 and 8 at Camp McDougall. There are several young people from Emmanuel United Church, Goulais River, East Korah Maxwell and the Island still considering attendance.
- The investigation into the possibility of a Presbytery-wide youth ministry is ongoing. Faith Formation hopes to bring a report to the September Presbytery meeting.
- The Committee is still searching for a Webmaster for the Presbytery website.

Nominations: Helen Smith

- Helen continues to look for someone to join Don White on the Presbytery Pensions team.

Outreach: Heddys Stevenson – No report.

Pastoral Care and Oversight: Thom McDonough

- Thom is currently acting as Coordinator of the Committee, which has met to review the Annual Reports; these will be returned with comments.
- The Committee is putting together a package of templates that can be used by teams doing pastoral charge visits.

Pastoral Relations: Brian Mundell

- Brian and Thom McDonough are working with the Echo Bay/Bar River Pastoral Charge Ministry and Personnel Committee.
- Bonnie Rayner's time in Wawa is coming to an end December 1, 2012; Brian will follow up with the folks there about their plans for the future.
- Helen shared her experience with Revenue Canada regarding the housing allowance and the removal of Box 30 from the Tax Form, and wondered if other clergy are having the same difficulty. (Apparently, some are.)

Moved, seconded and carried that Algoma Presbytery Executive accepts all Committee reports as presented.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **September Presbytery** – Erin Greeno will conduct a session on Archives and Records on Thursday evening in Sault Ste. Marie, at a time and location to be confirmed. Invitations will be sent to pastoral charges for Chairs and Secretaries of Councils/Boards,

church secretaries, finance and administration reps. and anyone else who needs this information. Thom hopes that there will be time for a duty of care discussion at the workshop. A draft agenda for the September Presbytery meeting was compiled, with the Church Extension Council meeting and a report from the General Council 41 Commissioners on Friday evening, and a Pastoral Care and Oversight workshop on Saturday morning. Thom will check with John Porter regarding the arrangements at Camp McDougall.

- **Rural Pastoral Charges** – Jan Schenell kicked off this discussion by asking what role Presbytery will now play in the visioning process of the North Shore pastoral charges. Nancy Ferguson volunteered to facilitate the next steps, and will liaise with Jan, John Porter and Rolly McLean and with their congregations. Thom talked about Sacraments Elders as one of the ‘tools’ that could be used to help The United Church maintain a presence in communities where there is no ordained clergy person.
- **United Church Women (UCW) Report** – Marnie McDonough, Algoma’s United Church Women President, submitted a written report (Appendix B) but highlighted the 50th Anniversary fundraising done for the Morogoro Training Centre in Tanzania. Algoma’s goal was \$1,500, but \$4,000 has already been donated, and \$163,000 has been raised nationally for this project.
- **Clergy Retreat** – Nancy Ferguson wondered whether it might be time for another clergy retreat, and whether Elaine Graham could be invited to lead a retreat here in Algoma. With the blessing of the Executive, Nancy will follow up with Elaine regarding her availability.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved, seconded, and carried that the meeting of Algoma Presbytery Executive adjourn at 2:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Full Court will be September 21 and 22, 2012 at Camp McDougall near Thessalon.

The next meeting of Algoma Presbytery Executive will be at noon on Thursday, October 18, 2012 at St. Andrew’s United Church, Sault Ste. Marie.

Thom McDonough, Chair

Ailsa Hanson, Secretary

Appendix A
CORRESPONDENCE
Received since June 25, 2012

From/Date	Topic	Action
Tanya Cameron, London Conference June 25	Certificates for DLMs	To Presbytery Executive
London Conference June 26	June 20 London Conference Executive Meeting Highlights	To Presbyters & Minutes
Paul Browning June 26	Meeting with Presbytery	To Presbytery Chair & Executive
London Conference June 27	Rev. Rick Hawley	To Presbyters
Norma Shell, Treasurer Grace UC July 11	Roofing Project at Grace UC	To Presbytery Church Extension Council
Matthew Stevens July 11	M&S Fund Records	To Outreach/Executive
Board of Trustees, Bruce Mines/Desbarats PC July 30	Sale of Manse	To Presbytery Executive
Board of Trustees, Bruce Mines/Desbarats PC Aug. 14	Sale of Manse – Certificate	To Presbytery Executive
London Conference Aug 14.	Working Group on Israel/Palestine – request for prayer	To Presbyters
London Conference Aug. 14	DLM Recognition	To Presbytery Executive

Appendix B
UCW (UNITED CHURCH WOMEN) REPORT TO PRESBYTERY EXECUTIVE
AUGUST 16, 2012

Two Algoma members attended the London Conference Summer Event “Sharing Our Story” on Sat., July 21 at Siloam United. Seven women attended the national UCW 50th Anniversary celebration July 23-27 in Ancaster. There were almost 400 attendees, 25 from London Conference. We received \$300 travel grant which has been distributed equally amongst our women. A summary of the event will be distributed for worship bulletin inclusion in September.

\$163,000 has already been donated (as announced at GC 41 by national President Betty Turcott) to the 50th UCW M&S project to fund maternal healthcare training at the Morogoro Training Centre in Tanzania. This is over three times the goal (\$50,000), and the first course funded by UCW has begun, 6 months ahead of schedule! Algoma’s goal was \$1,500, and we have raised \$4,000 so far. A few more 50th Anniversary worship services are planned for the fall, so more might be received.

UCW Report (continued)

A letter was sent to each of the 14 UCW Units in August. It highlights upcoming events, latest news, and a poster for the September Gathering as it is one week earlier than usual. Also included was an explanation of our assessment & allocation funding process, as it was suggested that it was not widely understood. We were saddened by the decision of the women at John Wesley to not reinstate their UCW Unit.

The UCW 50th Anniversary pin is still available at \$6 each, and the book 'Ordinary Heroes' is available from UCRD for \$19.95 (ebook available too).

I understand from GC41 Commissioner David Root that real UCW-made cookies & muffins are available there, not store-bought like our last London Conference AGM.

Marnie McDonough, President