

ALGOMA PRESBYTERY
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

AUGUST 16, 2007

EXECUTIVE MEETING

2006-07

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Algoma Presbytery Executive met on Thursday, August 16, 2007 at St. Andrews United Church, Sault Ste. Marie at 10 a.m. The meeting was led by Chair Rev. Doreen Sproule and a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE:

Ordered Ministry: Jan Schenell, Doreen Sproule, Larry Burton

Laity: Wilma Oliver, Leone Hamilton, Ruby Vaughan, Heddys Stevenson

Regrets: Phil Miller, Betty Pretty, Harry Stewart

OPENING: Chair Doreen Sproule read Opening Devotions.

AGENDA: Moved, seconded and carried that Algoma Presbytery approves the Agenda, as circulated.

MINUTES: Moved, seconded and carried that Algoma Presbytery approves the Executive Minutes of June 28, 2007 as amended.

CORRESPONDENCE: Moved, seconded and carried that Algoma Presbytery receives the correspondence as distributed.

FAITH FORMATION REPORT - Larry Burton

- **Camp McDougall:** a brief verbal report from Rob McCutcheon was read. If the Camp can remain operational until the year 2010, it will have reached its 50th anniversary. The quarry issue needs to be addressed.
- The final ARC meeting will take place Tuesday, Aug. 21 to discuss final details such as how to order materials, how and where displays can be set up, how to sell off inventory still on hand, etc.

EDUCATION & STUDENTS REPORT - Wilma Oliver

- 1) **Jana Howson:** Jana was recently home for a bit of a holiday and to provide Chaplaincy service to Camp Mc Dougall for a week. While she was here our committee met with her for her annual interview. She is having some difficulty receiving reports and evaluations from St Andrews. Communication with them has become a problem, which will likely necessitate a change in Jana's education plans for the coming year.
- 2) **Valerie Burns:** Valerie's Discernment Committee received an e-mail message on April 26th indicating her wish to withdraw from the Discernment process at this time. The E&S committee received a recommendation from her committee dated May 2nd, 2007 that she continue her active lay participation within congregational life and work and to ministry in the world.
- 3) **Rev. John Porter:** John has commenced his work and service at Zion United Church in Thessalon and an Appointment Advisory Committee is being assembled to work with him in a period of discernment to be completed in the spring of 2008.

- 4) **Rev. Eun-Joo Park:** Eun-Joo Has begun her appointment at the St Joseph Island pastoral charge on August 1st, 2007 and her Appointment Advisory Committee will begin their year of discernment with her in early September

Moved, seconded and carried: that the E & S Committee of Algoma Presbytery recommends to Algoma Presbytery the acceptance of the Conference Interview Board's report to recommend, with condition, John Porter as a potential applicant for ministry in the United Church through the admission process.

Moved, seconded and carried: that the E & S Committee of Algoma Presbytery recommends to Algoma Presbytery the acceptance of the Conference Interview Board's report to recommend Eun-Joo Park as a suitable applicant for ministry in the United Church through the admission process.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION REPORT - Norine St. Jean

The F & A had a meeting via MSN on August 2, 2007. Five main items were discussed. On 3 items we bring motions to the Executive Committee, and we have tabled two items to our next meeting before Presbytery.

1. Presbytery assessment calculations: After discussion, including Bruce McLeish who had researched this a few years ago, we have come to a tentative agreement on changing the process, using supporting membership numbers for calculations. We will offer a recommendation at the September Presbytery meeting.

2. Central United sale of manse: The F & A Committee recommends the sale of Central United's manse after their trustee committee announces their decision to the congregation. This was done Aug. 5th during worship. All protocol according to the UCC manual was followed for this process. **Moved, seconded, carried:** that Central United be given permission to sell their manse with the proceeds to be used as identified in their proposal.

3. Presbytery Meals: Moved, seconded, carried: that F&A recommends to Presbytery that Presbyters must request a meal to expect one at Presbytery two weeks prior to Presbytery meeting. This will hopefully be a more efficient and effective method to provide better stewardship of Presbytery finances. This will be a 1-year trial project to see if the hosts receive their information in time for preparation.

4. Camp McDougall: Moved, seconded, carried: that Camp McDougall present a detailed report of their finances and operation of the summer camp at the September Presbytery meeting. It was the general opinion of our members that we support Camp McDougall for one more year, if the account indicates that there has been an improvement in management and a clear indication of sustainability.

5. Housing allowance: We have received stats from Jane Graham for the Blind River/Iron Bridge area, and from Phil for the Sault area; however, we have not received stats from Thessalon. We will make a recommendation at the September Presbytery meeting.

PASTORAL CARE & OVERSIGHT -- Thom McDonough

The PC&O committee chair paid a visit to Camp McDougall. This committee will try to meet by teleconferencing. A full report will be made at the September meeting.

PASTORAL RELATIONS - Leone Hamilton

- Sault Area Hospitals will no longer issue parking tokens to clergy. Pastoral charges should be aware of this change.
- Peter Kingsbury will be in Algoma Presbytery from Nov. 12 (driving day) to Nov. 18. Any clergy and/or presbyters wishing to have individual meetings with him should contact Leone at 946-2428 so that this may be scheduled.
- MEPS (Ministry and Employment Policies and Services) is producing a directory. Please contact with any issues to be considered for inclusion.
- Presbytery representatives for the JNAC for Central United Church are Rev. Phil Miller and Joyce Biggs and for a modified JNAC for Willowgrove United Church,
- Rev. Betty Pretty and Leone Hamilton will serve. Nancy Ferguson and Leone Hamilton are the reps for East Korah Maxwell.

WORLD OUTREACH REPORT - Heddys Stevenson

- The National office has axed 26 paid positions, which will affect overseas ministries.
- London Conference is spearheading an idea to make the United Church of Canada a "peace church"
- London Conference will send a delegation to Mozambique to visit the Butts. Several people will go ahead to iron out logistics for the delegation's visit. Most will be from London Conference. Each visitor will pay for their trip (about 10 days to 2 weeks).
- The Hagermans are almost finished their 3-year ministry in Jamaica.

Moved, seconded and carried: that Algoma Presbytery accepts all Committee reports.

New Business:

- It was decided that the development of the agendas will continue as it has been done in the past. It was noted that everyone needs to be a little flexible as these agendas are really only plans for the two-day event. It was decided that time will be spent discussing the role of presbyters and there will be a wrap up at the end of each session so that note takers can jot down the highlights of discussions in order to take information back to congregations.
- There will be a clergy retreat on Wednesday, September 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Camp McDougall.
- The list concerning the dispersement of Observers was circulated in order to ensure the optimum coverage of the area.
- Rhea will book 3 spots for the "Living the Welcome" workshop to be held in Sudbury on Oct. 12 & 13. Learning grant money can be applied for through London Conference to defray some costs. Anyone who would like to go, please let Rhea know. This will be discussed at the Sept. meeting.

NEXT PRESBYTERY MEETING: September 21 & 22, 2007 at Desbarats United Church, Desbarats.