

**ALGOMA PRESBYTERY**  
*of The United Church of Canada*

**November 19 and 20, 2010**

**PRESBYTERY MEETING**

**2010-11**

**14**

The full court of Algoma Presbytery met on Friday, November 19 and Saturday, November 20, 2010 at Willowgrove United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Friday. Chair Nancy Ferguson led the meeting and a quorum was present.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Order of Ministry:** Larry Burton, Nancy Ferguson, Rolly MacLean, Thom McDonough, Bruce McLeish, Janet Norman, Eun-Joo Park, John Porter, Betty Pretty, Jan Schenell, Helen Smith, Doreen Sproule, Don White

**Laity:** Betty Allen, Fred Bright, Bonnie Beaupre, Kim Evoy, Barbara Frasier, Sandy Fulcher, Jane Graham, Linda Hedderston, Bonnie Johnson, Janet Jones, Sharon Lane, Verna Lapish, Lavine Livesey, Robin MacLeod, Marnie McDonough, Betty Mills, Brian Mundell, Nancy Mundell, Wilma Oliver, Norma Orr, Tom Orr, David Root, Heddys Stevenson, Clare Walker, Ailsa Hanson

**Regrets:** Joyce Biggs, Lorna Chiupka, Leone Hamilton, Diane Marshall, Laurie Milito, Phil Miller, Linda Stemp, Paul Stemp, Bonnie Rayner

**Guests:** Frances Glover, Bonnie Kirk

**WELCOME**

At 5:30 p.m., Chair Nancy Ferguson welcomed everyone to the gathering, reminded the Court about the book display, and identified and welcomed the two guests: Frances Glover, Pulpit Supply in an 'irregular appointment' serving Rydal Bank, and Bonnie Kirk, potential Presbyter from Desbarats United. Bruce McLeish provided an orientation to Willowgrove and led in prayer. After dinner, the Chair called the meeting to order with the following words: *"In the name of Jesus Christ, the one true Head of the Church, I now declare this meeting constituted for the transaction of such business as may properly come before it."*

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

There was consensus that the agenda be adopted as amended. (The Pastoral Oversight report will be presented after worship on Saturday.)

**MINUTES**

**Moved, seconded and carried** that the Presbytery minutes of September 17 and 18, 2010 be approved, and the Presbytery Executive minutes of June 24, 2010 be received for information.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MOTIONS FOR ACTION****Education and Students: Helen Smith**

- Interviews of the current group of Licensed Lay Worship Leaders are nearly complete.
- It has been suggested by the leaders of the Licensed Lay Worship Leader training program that the new trainees preach up to three times before their next session in April, so they will be looking for opportunities to do so. There are feedback questionnaires to be completed and returned to the individuals. If she is cleared to, Helen will pass along the names and contact information of the trainees so that pastoral charges can contact them if there is an opportunity for them to lead worship.
- Eun-Joo Park and John Porter will be interviewed in January by the Conference Interview Board as the final step in their admission process to the Order of Ministry of the United Church.
- The Discernment Committee for Andrew Muncaster, St. Andrew's United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, is well underway.

**Faith Formation and Communications: Eun-Joo Park**

- Thirty-two children attended the Presbytery-wide PD Day Bible Camp held at Willowgrove on October 1.
- Webmaster Harry Stewart has asked that historical data from 1987 to the present for each pastoral charge in Algoma Presbytery be submitted to Nancy Mundell by the end of February 2011.
- There will be information brought to the next full Court meeting about the Covenanting for Life in Creation Program; Faith Formation and Outreach are working on this together.
- Wilma Oliver reported that the Presbytery Observer list has been reviewed and revised. All previous recipients have been contacted, and there are 13 renewals and two new subscriptions – one each to the Ken Brown Recovery Home and the Sault Public Library.
- John Porter reported that Camp McDougall is fully accredited, that a family camp session will be added to the program next June, and an arts and crafts session added in July. A five-year colour brochure with inserts for each year is currently being printed and will be out before Christmas for gift-giving opportunities.

**Nominations: Helen Smith**

- Helen reported that she has no nominations for the vacancies of incoming Presbytery Chair or Treasurer. Anyone interested was encouraged to speak to Helen, Nancy regarding the Chair's position, or Fred regarding the Treasurer's role. The Church Extension Council has not yet met.

**Outreach: Heddys Stevenson**

- There was a great response to the presentations made by visiting Overseas Personnel Karen and Bill Butt and Rob and Keiko Witmer. Karen and Bill visited Bar River, Goulais, Iron Bridge, St. Joseph Island, and St. Andrew's (SSM). The Witmers spoke in Wawa, Echo Bay and Central United (SSM). Thanks were extended to Bonnie Rayner for providing lunch in Wawa.
- Matthew Stevens has sent several requests for urgent action in Iran and the Philippines, and these have been forwarded.

- The Mission Support meeting was held in London in October. Wawa and Manitouwadge both received grants for 2011, although with 25% less money to send this year, cuts were made in all grants including these.
- Mission and Support figures as of September 7, 2010 indicate that Algoma Presbytery has reached the half-way mark of its objective. Of all the pastoral charges, Manitouwadge alone has reach 90% of its target.
- The London Conference Hope Book has been distributed to every congregation, and is also available on-line ([www.londonconference.ca](http://www.londonconference.ca)). Members of the Court were encouraged to consider supporting one of the projects.

#### **Pastoral Relations: Betty Pretty on behalf of Leone Hamilton**

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery accept the request of Rev. D. Bruce McLeish for a change of pastoral relationship in order to retire, effective May 1, 2011. (There was one declaration of conflict.)
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that, in accordance with Sections 050 and 052 of *The Manual 2010*, Algoma Presbytery initiate a needs assessment of Willowgrove United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, in response to Bruce McLeish's request for a change of pastoral relationship in order to retire May 1, 2011; and direct the Pastoral Relations Committee to appoint Presbytery representatives to a Joint Needs Assessment Committee.
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery approve the re-appointment of Rev. Bonnie Rayner (Anglican Ordained) to First United, Wawa, from December 1, 2010 to December 1, 2012 under the following terms:
 

16 hours per week	
Salary	\$14,023.60
Housing	\$ 4,800.00
Continuing Education	\$ 650.00
Telephone	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
Total	\$19,773.60

Travel at 41¢ per km as logged  
 Vacation and study leave according to *The Manual 2010*

#### **Pastoral Oversight - The Triennial Visit: Rolly MacLean**

- A PowerPoint presentation containing relevant points from *The Manual* Section 332 was made by Rolly and Committee member Thom McDonough. (See Appendix B.) A plea was made for volunteers to join the small but hard-working group doing the visits to pastoral charges, and a recommendation was made from the floor that interested Presbyters be trained.

#### **Planning Conference Staff Visits: Nancy Ferguson**

- The Chair had prepared a sheet from the Conference website, listing Conference staff, and their areas of expertise and responsibility. The Court broke up into small groups to discuss whom they would like to invite to future Presbytery meetings, and on which topics they would like more information: justice issues in rural and farming communities; mission and stewardship; M&S; re-discovering a sense of mission; pastoral oversight; pastoral care and oversight; transformational ministries; how to effect transformational

change; JNACs; new possibilities; how to raise up leadership in congregations; camping; children, youth and young adult ministry; mission support and technology grants and how to access them.

### **WORSHIP AND COMMUNION (Saturday)**

Using Micah 6:6-8 and Luke 4:16-21, Bruce McLeish reflected on the questions, “what are we doing?” and “where are we going?” Then, ably assisted by Willowgrove Presbyters Janet Jones, Wilma Oliver and David Root, he led the court in a celebration of communion.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MOTIONS FOR ACTION (Continued)**

#### **Pastoral Oversight: Rolly MacLean**

- Six visits have been completed and one is in progress; the Oversight team still has to meet with the Official Board at Zion United in Thessalon.
- A guideline sheet was made available for the contents of Annual Reports. Rolly reminded the Court that two copies of Annual Reports are required for use by the Oversight Committee.

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION RE: CAMP McDOUGALL**

- The court moved into small groups to discuss the Notice of Motion. Following parliamentary procedure the mover of the motion was invited to address the Court. This was followed by several presbyters adding their wisdom to the debate. At the order of the day, the question was called.
- A ballot vote was requested.
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that whereas Algoma Presbytery chooses Camp McDougall and its camping ministry as its primary mission and outreach ministry, therefore be it resolved that Algoma Presbytery work cooperatively with the Camp McDougall Board to explore all avenues that will ensure the future of this ministry and mission.
- 33 votes cast: 23 were in favour of the motion and 10 were opposed.
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that the ballots be destroyed.

#### **Finance and Administration: Fred Bright**

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that the 2011 budget be set at \$73,784.

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Welcome Friend Association has written to Presbytery, asking for sponsorship for the September 2011 Focus on the Gay Family Conference. The letter has been referred to the Finance and Administration Committee, requesting that they report to the January Executive Meeting, and bring the matter to the February full Court for discussion and possible action.
- The Chair will bring suggestions regarding the scheduling of accessibility training to the next full Presbytery meeting.

- Phil Miller will be invited to attend the February Presbytery meeting so that the Court can celebrate with him his transition to retirement; Bruce McLeish will be honoured at the April full Court meeting.
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery accepts with regret and thanks Nancy Mundell's resignation from the Conference Boundaries Ad Hoc Committee. (There was one declaration of conflict.)

### CLOSING

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that the powers of Presbytery be extended to the Executive until the next full meeting.
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that the meeting of Algoma Presbytery adjourn at 12:27 p.m.

Thanks were extended to the women's groups at Willowgrove who provided warm hospitality and wonderful meals and refreshments over the weekend.

### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Algoma Presbytery will take place February 18 and 19, 2011 at East Korah Maxwell United Church, Sault Ste. Marie.

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Nancy Ferguson, Chair

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Ailsa Hanson, Secretary

### Appendix A CORRESPONDENCE *Received since October 21, 2010*

From	Topic	Action
Peter Kingsbury	Warrant to Covenant, Janet Norman, St. Andrew's UC, SSM	To file
Rev. D. Bruce McLeish	Request for Change in Pastoral Relationship	To Pastoral Relations Committee
Rev. Philip D. Miller	Request to be Retained on Roll (incomplete)	To Pastoral Relations
First United Church, Wawa	Application for Church Improvement Grant (incomplete)	To Presbytery
Harry Stewart	Sponsorship Request	To November Presbytery
Matthew Stevens	Green Awakening Network Questionnaire	To Presbyters

## Appendix B

Following is the text of the PowerPoint Presentation by the Pastoral Oversight Committee:

### Slide 1

Purpose: 332(d) of *The Manual 2010*

- Support for the pastoral charge
- Encouragement
- Counsel
- To demonstrate and to exercise an aspect of the Episcopal function of the Presbytery (Episcopal = “of bishop” = oversight)

### Slide 2

How does the visit happen?

- Preparation and orientation both for Presbytery visitors and for the officers of the pastoral charge or Presbytery ministry should precede the visits. 332d(i)
- Materials that will be used should go to the pastoral charges and Presbytery ministries in advance. 332d(ii)
- Maximum use shall be made of data gathered from the yearly report as background, prior to the visit. 332d(iii)
- When visiting each pastoral charge or Presbytery ministry, the team should meet both with those in ministry and with a representative group of officers and other members of the pastoral charge or Presbytery ministry. 332d(iv)
- Guidelines established from time to time should be used by both parties to provide a basis for dialogue and discussion. Those responsible for the visit are expected to adapt such guidelines to the particular situation that is to be visited. 332d(v)

### Slide 3

What happens during a visit?

- The visiting team meets:
  - With the Minister
  - With the Ministry and Personnel Committee of Council
  - With the members of the congregation
- Visiting team members leading the discussion through a number of topic areas

### Slide 4

How does the report get prepared?

- Visiting team members write up their assessment of the visit.
- Individual assessments are used by the team lead to write report.
- Draft report is reviewed by team members.
- Team lead sends draft report to Chair of Council.
- Pastoral charge provides input and comments on drafts.
- Final report is prepared by team lead and agreed to with team members.
- Final report shared with pastoral charge.

### **Slide 5**

Where does the report go?

- Relevant data from the in-depth visits to pastoral charges and Presbytery ministries shall be included along with results from yearly reports. When reporting on behalf of the Presbytery to the Conference, such reports shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary or speaker of the Conference by April 15 of each year. 332d(ix)

### **Slide 6**

Discussion:

- What about confidentiality?
- How do “meaningful” discussions occur?
- Isn’t this just interference in the affairs of the pastoral charge?

### **Slide 7**

Next steps:

- We need Presbytery members to be members of visiting teams.
- We need those who might be interested in leading visits.
- Would a training session be of interest? Would it get some attendance?