

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

**November 18 & 19, 2011**

**PRESBYTERY MEETING**

**2011-2012**

**23**

The full court of Algoma Presbytery met on Friday, November 18 and Saturday, November 19, 2011 at Harmony St. Marks United Church beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Friday. Chair Thom McDonough led the meeting and a quorum was present.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Order of Ministry:** Nancy Ferguson, Rolly MacLean, Thom McDonough, Laurie Milito, Janet Norman, Eun-Joo Park, John Porter, Bonnie Rayner, Jan Schenell, Helen Smith, Doreen Sproule, Linda Stemp, Paul Stemp, Don White

**Laity:** Betty Allen, Bonnie Beaupré, Joyce Biggs, Fred Bright, Lorna Chiupka, Kim Evoy, Jane Graham, Leone Hamilton, Bonnie Kirk, Verna Lapish, Lavine Livesey, Robin MacLeod, Marnie McDonough, Diane Marshall, Betty Mills, Brian Mundell, Wilma Oliver, David Root, Wilda Ryckman, Bill Walker, Clare Walker, Ailsa Hanson

**Regrets:** Larry Burton, Barbara Frasier, Sandy Fulcher, Linda Hedderson, Bonnie Johnson, Janet Jones, Sharon Lane, Rhona McLarty, Bruce McLeish, Phil Miller, Norma Orr, Tom Orr, Betty Pretty, Heddys Stevenson, Clare Weatherby

**Guest:** Rev. Gary Clark, London Conference President

**WELCOME AND COVENANTING**

At 5:30 p.m., Thom McDonough lit the Christ candle and called the court to order. We joined together in singing hymn 820 from Voices United, "Make a Joyful Noise." Wilda Ryckman spoke about the top six reasons she loves Presbytery and then offered a prayer for the community. After we sang Hymn 289 "It Only Takes a Spark", Nancy Ferguson led us through a covenanting and installation liturgy (copy on file), officially welcoming Thom as the new Algoma Presbytery Chair. Gavel in hand, Thom formally constituted the meeting with the 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."* He offered a prayer, holding up long-time Presbyter Janet Jones, and then welcomed and introduced Rev. Gary Clark, President of London Conference, and new Presbytery and Treasurer Bill Walker.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Moved, seconded and carried** that the agenda be adopted as printed and amended. (Three items were added to New Business: Welcome Friend Association, Finance motions and Church Extension Council update.)

**MINUTES**

**Moved, seconded and carried** that the Presbytery minutes of September 16 and 17, 2011 and September 25, 2011 be approved, and that the Presbytery Executive minutes of August 18, 2011 be received for information.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

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

**WORSHIP AND PRESENTATION BY GARY CLARK**

After a time of table fellowship, Thom called the court back together for worship. In his message, Gary Clark told the story of Jonah, reminding us that if we rely on God and not ourselves, He will lead us safely to the place we are meant to be. After Gary and Eun-Joo Park led us in a celebration of communion, Gary broke us into groups of four or five, and asked us to brainstorm the things we might change in the church to make it more responsive to the Spirit. After that, we were asked to choose the three most doable of those ideas, and present those to the court. In different groups, we elaborated on those ideas.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MOTIONS FOR ACTION (Saturday)**

After a brief opening, Thom reminded the court about the M&S collection bag, and invited us to think about whether we had a passion for M&S promotion.

**Education and Students: Helen Smith**

- Helen expressed thanks to Rolly MacLean who has joined Education and Students.
- The Discernment Committee for Andrew Muncaster continues to meet.
- The E&S Committee is currently reviewing the questionnaires from the long-serving Licensed Lay Worship Leaders, and will be bringing a motion to a subsequent meeting regarding their re-licensing.

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

- Eun-Joo spoke about the material from General Council, calling for applications for Youth Forum delegates and alternates, Youth Forum Chaplain, and Home Group Leaders for the General Council meeting August 11 to 18, 2012 at Carlton University in Ottawa. Copies of the material were available for each Pastoral Charge, with a reminder that the deadline for application is February 1, 2012. The Faith Formation Committee will meet to review all applications.
- David Root, Chair of the Christian Development Sub-Committee, reported on the Pastoral Visitation workshop which Eun-Joo led the weekend of October 14 and 15. Of the 20 registered and 18 who attended, one participant was from St. Luke's Anglican Church and one from the Catholic community. The workshop may be offered again in the spring. Nancy reminded the court that Eun-Joo had been willing in the past to offer the workshop to a single congregation, but that if she is asked to do so again, remuneration should be considered.

- Thom advised that he will be taking two participants to London Conference Youth Forum in April next year, and would be happy to take others if there are interested youth from other pastoral charges in Algoma.

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

- Fred expressed thanks to Phil Miller, who has been continuing to write cheques and prepare financial statements until such time as Bill Walker has signing authority.
- An income and expenses statement to November 10 was distributed and reviewed. (See Appendix B.)

#### **Nominations: Helen Smith**

- The position of Chair of Pastoral Care and Oversight has not yet been filled; conversations are on-going.
- Helen asked those Presbyters not currently serving on a committee to consider where their gifts might best be used.

#### **Outreach: Verna Lapish for Heddys Stevenson**

See Appendix C.

#### **Pastoral Care and Oversight – no report**

#### **Pastoral Relations: Brian Mundell**

Thom McDonough was excused, and Past Chair Nancy Ferguson chaired the meeting during the discussion of the following motion.

- Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery recommend the re-appointment of Thom McDonough, DLM, to the Goulais River Pastoral Charge from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 under the following conditions:

Part-time	16 hours/week
Salary	\$14,174.40
Housing	4,800.00
Telephone	385.08
Continuing Education	<u>500.09</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,859.52</b>

Travel @ 41¢ per km

Vacation as per United Church policy

(There was one declaration of conflict.)

- As a result of the foregoing motion, Thom's status changes from Member-at-Large to member of Presbytery. At this point, Thom McDonough reassumed the Chair.
- There was further discussion of the application of the Police Records Check policy, copies of which were again made available to Presbyters. Gary clarified that a Level 2 Vulnerable Sector Verification is required every six years if the ministry personnel/candidate is not moving; Level 1 Criminal Records Check is required every three years, and if a year is missed, then Level 2 is required.
- Betty Pretty has resigned as Supervisor of Willowgrove, and Wilda Ryckman has stepped into that role.

- Brian made reference to the *Effective Leadership and Healthy Pastoral Relationships* report that proposed a new model for pastoral relations, and oversight and discipline, that would shift the majority of responsibility for these processes from presbyteries to Conferences and from volunteers to paid staff. The General Secretary has embarked on a process of consultation with the wider church until February 2012, and depending on the outcome of the consultation, will provide options for possible implementation. Thom will provide a précis of this report to Presbyters.

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

#### **CAMP MCDOUGALL REPORT: John Porter**

John took the court through a PowerPoint presentation of camping statistics. (The presentation was circulated electronically and a copy is on file.)

- The total number of campers this year was up from 2010; the number of campers with United Church affiliation was also up in 2011, although the number of sponsored campers was down.
- Welcome Friends Association is planning a Rainbow Camp for next summer; fliers will go out to the high schools.
- The septic system needs to be replaced for 2012.
- Two of the older cabins must be replaced.
- In order to continue to be viable, the Board feels the camp must become a three-season facility, which means that the main lodge will require winterizing and updating.
- The Board feels that fee cannot be raised.

#### **2012 BUDGET PRESENTATION: Fred Bright**

A draft budget was presented, discussed and amended (see Appendix D).

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that the amount paid by Presbytery for dinner be increased from \$10 to \$11 per person, and for lunch be increased from \$7.00 to \$8.00 per person. The UCW President expressed thanks on behalf of the folks preparing meals.
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that the honorarium for the Secretary be increased by \$300 and the honorarium for the Treasurer be increased by \$100, bringing the total honoraria to \$2,000 per annum. (There was one declaration of conflict.)
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery forgive the remaining balance on the loan made to Camp McDougall.
- **Moved, seconded and defeated** that Algoma Presbytery allocate \$25,000 to Camp McDougall in the 2012 budget.
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that the 2012 budget be set at \$71,799.

#### **REMITTS 4, 5A, 5B: Doreen Sproule and Marnie McDonough**

**Remit 4:** To the question, “Does the Presbytery agree that Conferences shall be required simply to meet at least every third year; and that the Basis of Union shall be amended to reflect this policy?”, 28 presbyters voted yes and 1 voted no.

**Remit 5A:** Fourteen (14) Presbyters voted yes and five (5) voted no to the question, “Does the Presbytery agree that a Designated Lay Minister shall be appointed by a Presbytery only to a Pastoral Charge or other Presbytery Accountable Ministry; and that the Basis of Union shall be amended to reflect this policy?”

**Remit 5B:** Twenty-eight (28) voted yes and there were no negative votes to the following question: “Does the Presbytery agree that, when the appointment of a Designated Lay Minister is at an end, the Presbytery may discern together with the Designated Lay Minister the question of ongoing Presbytery membership; and that the Basis of Union shall be amended to reflect this policy?”

## NEW BUSINESS

1. **Welcome Friend Association Chair** Harry Stewart spoke about the second bi-annual conference held September 23 to 25, 2011. The theme for this year’s conference was “Focus on the Gay Family – There Are No Dumb Questions” and was very successful. The organizers were, however, disappointed with the lack of participation by Algoma Presbyters. They are hoping that we will support the Rainbow Camp for Youth, a one-week residential camp to be held in August 2012, and will be in touch with more information in the spring.
2. **Finance Motions** - At the August 18, 2011 Executive Meeting, the following motion was moved, seconded and carried: ‘That all bank accounts be changed so that they require the signature of the Treasurer and one other of the three people named above.’ (The three people named are the Secretary, the Chair and the Past Chair.)  
**Moved, seconded and carried** that that motion be reconsidered.  
**Moved, seconded and defeated** that all bank accounts be changed so that they require the signature of the Treasurer and one other of the three people named above, those being the Secretary, the Chair and the Past Chair.  
**Moved, seconded and carried** that signing authority for all Presbytery bank accounts may be exercised by any one of William Walker, Thom McDonough, Nancy Ferguson, Ailsa Hanson. (There was one opposed.)  
**Moved, seconded and carried** that all expenses in excess of \$1,000 from Presbytery bank accounts will require any two of the authorized signatories.
3. **Church Extension Council** – Jane Graham updated the Court on the last meeting of the Church Extension Council on November 9. Liability insurance is being addressed; bylaws are being reviewed. The request from Emmanuel United Church regarding their capital project was received and discussed, and a grant of \$30,000 has been approved. If additional monies are required, a loan will be considered.
4. **Civil Marriages** – Kim Evoy advised the Court that in 2004, changes were made to the Marriage Act to allow Municipal Clerks or their designates to perform civil marriages; Kim is in the process to become one of those designates.

Thom McDonough expressed the Court’s appreciation to Gary Clark for his presence among us, and Gary led us in prayer.

## 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 12:40 p.m.

Courtesies were extended to the folks at Harmony St. Marks and Grace United for their hospitality over the weekend.

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

The next meeting of Algoma Presbytery will take place February 24 and 25, 2012 at John Wesley United Church, 346 John Street, Sault Ste. Marie.

The next meeting of Algoma Presbytery Executive will take place January 19, 2012 at St. Andrew's United Church in Sault Ste. Marie.

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Thom McDonough, Chair

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Ailsa Hanson, Secretary

Appendix A  
**CORRESPONDENCE**

*Received since October 20, 2011*

<b>From</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Action</b>
Manitou Conference	Racial Justice Training for Rev. Faye Stevens	Copy of September 17 & 18, 2010 Presbytery Minutes forwarded
Welcome Friend Association	Thank You Letter	To November Presbytery
Hicks Morley	Rev. N. St. Jean/Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario	Full Settlement/File closed

**Algoma Presbytery United Church  
Income & Expenses Statement 2011**  
November 10

	2011 Actual	2011 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>		
1 Annual Assessments	\$57,759.45	\$71,684.00
2 Interest General - ING Direct	\$0.00	
3 Offerings	\$523.00	
4 Camp McDougall - Repayment	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
5 Lay Preacher's Course & Workshop	\$2,100.61	
6 Miscellaneous	\$1,227.02	\$1,100.00
7 <b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$62,610.08</b>	<b>\$73,784.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
8 Christian Development	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
9 Communication Observer	\$300.00	\$300.00
10 Camp McDougall - Operating	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
11 Focus On the Gay Family Conference	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
12 <b>Total Christian Nurture</b>	<b>\$26,300.00</b>	<b>\$21,300.00</b>
13 London Conference	\$27,550.20	\$36,734.00
14 Accessibility Training	\$622.94	\$0.00
15 Travel - Presbytery	\$2,096.94	\$5,000.00
16 Meals	\$2,035.00	\$2,500.00
17 Honoraria - Secretary & Treasurer	\$412.50	\$1,600.00
18 Postage	\$12.24	\$100.00
19 Telephone	\$0.00	\$100.00
20 Stationery & Supplies&Copying	\$0.00	\$200.00
21 Discounts for Early Payments	\$635.44	\$600.00
22 Professional Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
23 Legal Fees 2010 Budget	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Legal Fees 2011 Budget	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
24 Website	\$164.70	\$1,000.00
25 <b>Total Finance &amp; Administration</b>	<b>\$33,529.96</b>	<b>\$50,834.00</b>
26 Education & Students	\$0.00	\$100.00
27 Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$500.00
28 Pastoral Relations - Supervisory Travel	\$0.00	\$150.00
29 Pastoral Care & Oversight - Travel	\$0.00	\$500.00
30 Student Assistance	\$0.00	\$100.00
31 Lay Preacher's Course	\$750.00	\$0.00
32 Preaching Workshop	-\$230.00	\$0.00
33 <b>Total Ministry, Personnel &amp; Education</b>	<b>\$520.00</b>	<b>\$1,350.00</b>
34 World Outreach	\$0.00	\$200.00
35 Church in Society	\$0.00	\$50.00
36 Stewardship	\$0.00	\$50.00
37 <b>Total Outreach</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
38 <b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$60,349.96</b>	<b>\$73,784.00</b>
Surplus (Deficit)	\$2,260.12	\$0.00
<b>Opening Balance Jan 1, 2011</b>	<b>\$16,094.28</b>	
<b>Balance Nov 10, 2011</b>	<b>\$18,354.40</b>	

**Presbytery Outreach Report/Nov 2011**

1. The United Church of Canada is deeply concerned about the emergency situation now affecting several countries in the Horn of Africa—Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, and the Karamoja region of Uganda. On July 20, 2011, the United Church launched an appeal in response to this crisis and is currently inviting donations. Our hearts go out to the millions of people affected by what our regional partners there say is the worst drought to hit the region in 60 years.

2. The new group called 'Social Justice' will combine the Division of World Outreach and Church in Society. We already combine these two under the Outreach portfolio, but this will make it easier to get information and promote action on Justice issues.

3. In letters from Deborah Elliot and Don Gibson in Nicaragua we hear the following

- The Hurricane season seems to have stopped and I think we are entering into the dry season. We have a new cistern so our water problems have been solved and the electricity problems are slowly being resolved through out the city.

- However we have had huge problems with water and electricity. Plus there are disturbing events happening at the other end of town.

- So electricity....it is off most of the time. It goes off during the day for hours at a time and often goes off in the early evening and is off most of the night. It is hard on everyone and means you have to jump when the electricity comes on to get things done that needs electricity (like charging my computer and cell phone) The electric company is also putting meters on everyone's house and for some reason the price of electricity has gone up dramatically. So now people are demonstrating in the streets because they are angry. Add to that the fact that the municipal water has not come on for two months is heating up the anger in the streets. On a personal level our cistern has developed a leak and so this week has been difficult. We bought several large garbage cans and filled them with water to tide us over.

- The Indigenous people are fighting over a land dispute and it has turned nasty with several people dead and many others injured. This is happening in Lama Verde barrio, which is on the other side of town so we are not at risk in the same way as others.

4. The Hope Book is available on line from the link on the London Conference web site. ([www.londonconference.ca](http://www.londonconference.ca)). One Book was sent to every church.



**Algoma Presbytery  
Draft 2012 Budget**

	2011 Forecast	2011 Budget	2012 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>			
1 Annual Assessments	71,684.00	\$71,684.00	\$71,799.00
2 Legal Fee Reimbursement	1,164.00	\$1,100.00	\$0.00
3 Offerings	523.00		\$0.00
4 Camp McDougall - Repayment	1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
5 Lay Preacher's Course & Workshop	2,100.61		\$0.00
6 Miscellaneous	63.02		\$0.00
7 <b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$76,534.63</b>	<b>\$73,784.00</b>	<b>\$71,799.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
8 Christian Development	1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
9 Communication Observer**	300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
10 Camp McDougall - Operating	20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
11 Focus On the Gay Family Conference	5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12 <b>Total Christian Nurture</b>	<b>\$26,300.00</b>	<b>\$21,300.00</b>	<b>\$21,300.00</b>
13 London Conference & Hospital Visitor	36,734.00	\$36,734.00	\$36,299.00
14 Accessibility Training***	622.94	\$0.00	\$0.00
15 Travel - Presbytery	3,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$4,000.00
16 Meals	2,800.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00
17 Honoraria - Secretary & Treasurer	1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,000.00
18 Postage	50.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
19 Telephone	-	\$100.00	\$50.00
20 Stationery & Supplies & Copying	100.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
21 Discounts for Early Payments *	635.44	\$600.00	\$650.00
22 Professional Fees	-	\$0.00	\$0.00
23 Legal Fees 2010 Cost Funded over 5 years	-	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Legal Fees 2011 Cost	-	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
24 Website	500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
25 <b>Total Finance &amp; Administration</b>	<b>\$46,042.38</b>	<b>\$50,834.00</b>	<b>\$49,299.00</b>
26 Education & Students		\$100.00	\$100.00
27 Continuing Education		\$500.00	\$500.00
28 Pastoral Relations - Supervisory Travel		\$150.00	
29 Pastoral Care & Oversight - Travel		\$500.00	\$500.00
30 Student Assistance		\$100.00	
31 Lay Preacher's Course	750.00	\$0.00	
32 Preaching Workshop (Net Costs)	(230.00)	\$0.00	
33 <b>Total Ministry, Personnel &amp; Education</b>	<b>\$520.00</b>	<b>\$1,350.00</b>	<b>\$1,100.00</b>
34 World Outreach	-	\$200.00	\$100.00
35 Church in Society	-	\$50.00	
36 Stewardship	-	\$50.00	
37 <b>Total Outreach</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
38 <b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$72,862.38</b>	<b>\$73,784.00</b>	<b>\$71,799.00</b>
39 <b>Surplus (Deficit) line 7 - line 38</b>	<b>\$3,672.25</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>