

ALGOMA PRESBYTERY
of The United Church of Canada

September 16 and 17, 2011

PRESBYTERY MEETING

2011-2012

11

The full court of Algoma Presbytery met on Friday, September 16 and Saturday, September 17, 2011 at Emmanuel United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, beginning at 4:15 p.m. on Friday. Past Chair Nancy Ferguson led the meeting and a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE

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

Laity: Betty Allen, Bonnie Beaupré, Joyce Biggs, Fred Bright, Lorna Chiupka, Kim Evoy, Jane Graham, Leone Hamilton, Linda Hedderson, Bonnie Johnson, Janet Jones, Bonnie Kirk, Sharon Lane, Verna Laphin, Lavine Livesey, Robin MacLeod, Betty Mills, Brian Mundell, Wilma Oliver, Norma Orr, David Root, Wilda Ryckman, Heddys Stevenson, Clare Weatherby, Ailsa Hanson

Regrets: Larry Burton, Barbara Frasier, Sandy Fulcher, Aileen Hadden, Diane Marshall, Marnie McDonough, Thom McDonough, Rhona McLarty, Laurie Milito, Phil Miller, Tom Orr, Linda Stemp, Paul Stemp, Bill Walker, Clare Walker

Guests: Rev. Judith Gilliland, London Conference Congregational Futures Development Minister

WELCOME

At 4:20 p.m., Past Chair Nancy Ferguson welcomed the members of Algoma Presbytery to both her home church Emmanuel and to the September full court meeting. After a brief explanation of changes to the agenda and several announcements, Nancy called the 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 Past Chair, I now declare this meeting constituted for the transaction of such business as may properly come before it."* She invited the court to join her in prayer.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

There was consensus that the agenda be adopted as printed and amended. (A motion from Education and Students was added after Correspondence, the visit by London Conference President Gary Clark was added to New Business.)

MINUTES

Moved, seconded and carried that the Presbytery minutes of April 15 and 16, 2011 and July 10, 2011 be approved, and the Presbytery Executive minutes of June 23, 2011 and August 18, 2011 be received for information.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

EDUCATION AND STUDENTS MOTION: Helen Smith

Moved, seconded and carried that, having completed the course requirements and been interviewed by the Education and Students Committee of Algoma Presbytery, Lorna Chiupka be recognized as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader.

PASTORAL CARE AND OVERSIGHT: Judith Gilliland

In small groups, the court discussed what pastoral care and oversight is (caring for one another, celebrating the good, sharing, etc.) and is not (an evaluation of clergy or pastoral charge effectiveness), and then shared thoughts and observations. Judith corrected misunderstandings, and described the role of the Committee and their responsibilities and related tasks. She emphasized the concept of “one-anothering”, and talked about a “one-anothering” network of all those involved in Pastoral Care and Oversight work that she is hoping to establish in the Conference. Her Powerpoint presentation has been distributed to all Presbyters.

At the end of Judith’s presentation, the court sang grace (“For all your goodness, God...”) and enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of Emmanuel United. During worship, the court celebrated communion with our new Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (copy of the bulletin on file), and then celebrated the LLWLs in a time of fellowship afterwards.

Saturday morning Welcome and Gathering Prayer

At 9:15 a.m., Nancy called the group to order, invited folks to take a moment, quiet our minds, centre ourselves and then opened the meeting with prayer.

COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORTS AND MOTIONS**Education and Students: Helen Smith**

- The Discernment Committee for Andrew Muncaster is continuing to meet and there will be a report soon.
- The Court expressed its thanks to the Education and Students Committee for all their work with the new Licensed Lay Worship Leaders.

Nominations: Helen Smith

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Jan Schenell be the clergy member-at-large on Algoma Presbytery Executive replacing Betty Pretty. (There was one declaration of conflict.)

Finance and Administration: Fred Bright

Although Bill Walker is now Presbytery Treasurer, Phil Miller is Acting Treasurer until Bill returns from his trip. A financial statement was distributed (copy on file), and Fred asked that Committee Chairs submit their requests for 2012 funding to him up to one week before the November Presbytery meeting.

Outreach: Heddys Stevenson

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery approve the 2012 Mission and Support Grant request from First United Church, Wawa, for \$20,659, and forward it to London Conference for consideration. (There were two declarations of conflict.)
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery approve the 2012 Mission and Support Grant request from St. Paul's United Church, Manitouwadge, for \$11,000, and forward it to London Conference for consideration. (There were two declarations of conflict.)

Pastoral Care and Oversight: Rolly MacLean

- Committee member Wilma Oliver reported on Rolly's behalf that several annual report reviews have been sent out to congregations.
- The report of the East Korah Maxwell pastoral oversight visit of June 20, 2011 was reviewed and it will be sent out.
- Rydal Bank's pastoral charge records were received and reviewed.
- Wilma advised that Rolly has indicated her intent to step down as Chair of the Pastoral Care and Oversight Committee, but she will be remaining on the Committee.
- In response to a request for a schedule of oversight visits, Wilma said that one will be drafted.

Pastoral Relations: Brian Mundell

- Goulais River is in the process of getting Thom McDonough onto the automated payroll system (ADP), and that will be completed when Thom is back in the country.
- The Echo Bay/Bar River Pastoral Charge is also finishing its paperwork for ADP.
- Brian reviewed the new Police Records Check Policy for Ministry Personnel and Candidates (copy on file).
- He reminded the court of the covenanting service being held on September 25, 2011 for John Porter, Linda Stemp and Paul Stemp.

Faith Formation and Communications: Eun-Joo Park

- This year's Kempton Hewitt learning event on the Gospel of Mark was another successful day. Nine participants attended the workshop on June 29 at Desbarats United Church; Rev. Dr. Hewitt has offered to conduct another session next year at the end of June.
- The Christian Development Sub-Committee is offering a Pastoral Visitation Course Friday, October 14 (6:30 to 9:30 p.m.) and Saturday, October 15 (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.), under Eun-Joo's leadership, at Willowgrove United Church. This workshop is for those interested in visiting members and adherents of their own congregations in their homes, in hospital, or in a care facility. The cost is only \$20 and the registration deadline is October 7.
- Although there were not enough participants to conduct a Confirmation Camp this past summer, it is hoped that there will be enough interest to have one in 2012.
- Observer subscriptions will remain the same for this next year.

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

JOINT NEEDS ASSESSMENT: Judith Gilliland

Judith reminded us that the Joint Needs Assessment process is a tool of “one anothering”, required when there is to be a change in the terms of pastoral relations. She quoted Nora Sanders’ letter of November 13, 2007 to Presbyteries, Conference Executive Secretaries and Personnel Ministers, in which various methods of following the process were offered, all of which satisfy the requirements of *The Manual*. She also provided information about the two-day congregational Joint Needs Assessment process which Huron-Perth Presbytery has developed. Judith provided copies of several documents, including an outline of the steps in the process, information about the Environics Congregational Report available for purchase, a sample Minister’s Position Description, etc. (Copies of all handouts are on file.)

CAMP MCDOUGALL REPORT: John Porter

As with each camping year, the summer of 2011 had both joys and challenges. Camping attendance was up; the staff was great. Five cabins were adopted this year, leaving just two more to be sponsored. Maintenance and repairs have been done well by the sponsors. However, the septic system backed up and was pumped out twice; it will have to be replaced. Because of an administrative glitch, the camp lost its non-profit status and the Board is working on having that reinstated. Bruce Avery has been recognized for his 25 years of volunteer service with the Camp.

NEW BUSINESS**1. Conference Boundaries: Nancy Ferguson**

Nancy reviewed for the court the time-line of our discussions about where Algoma Presbytery fits. Presbyters brought back information from their congregational discussions, and the issue seemed to be stalling.

Moved, seconded and carried that Algoma Presbytery disband the Conference Boundaries Ad Hoc Committee, with thanks, with no further action to be taken at this time. (There were four opposed and one declaration of conflict.)

Moved, seconded and carried that the meeting be extended until all business is completed.

2. Status of Extension Council: Janet Norman

The new Board of Directors (yet to be approved by London Conference) is comprised of: Jim Robinson, Chair; Jane Graham, Secretary; Bruce Noble; Bruce McLeish; Janet Norman; Thom McDonough; and Austin McKay. Heather McLean met with the Board when she was in Algoma in June. Wilda Ryckman will be in attendance at the Conference Executive Meeting on September 21, at which the approval of the Directors will hopefully be given.

3. Conference President Gary Clark’s Visit

Willowgrove’s worship service is already planned for November 20; both Rydal Bank and John Wesley would very much like to have Rev. Clark speak, but John Wesley has graciously said that they would give Rydal Bank first refusal.

4. Huntington University: Betty Pretty

Senator Frank Mahovlich will be receiving an honorary doctorate at this month’s Convocation ceremony.

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 12:48 p.m.

Nancy led the court in a closing grace “For food in a world...” Courtesies were extended to the folks at Emmanuel who provided such generous hospitality throughout the meeting.

NEXT MEETINGS:

The next meeting of Algoma Presbytery will take place November 18 and 19, 2011 at Harmony St. Marks United Church in Richards Landing, St. Joseph Island.

The next meeting of the Presbytery Executive will take place October 20 at St. Andrew’s United Church in Sault Ste. Marie.

Nancy Ferguson, Past Chair

Ailsa Hanson, Secretary

Appendix A
CORRESPONDENCE
Received since August 18, 2011

| From | Topic | Action |
|------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| General Council Office | Call for Mission Theme Evaluations and Proposals | Forwarded to Presbyters |