

**ALGOMA PRESBYTERY
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

APRIL 17 & 18

PRESBYTERY MEETING

2009-10

The full court of Algoma Presbytery met on Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18, 2009 at Harmony-St. Mark's United Church, St. Joseph Island, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Chairperson Doreen Sproule led the meeting and a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE:

Order of Ministry: Doreen Sproule, Phil Miller, Eun-Joo Park, Helen Smith, Don White, Jan Schenell, Betty Pretty, Bonnie Rayner, Larry Burton, John Porter.

Laity: Sandy Fulcher, Fred Bright, Verna Lapish, Leone Hamilton, Bonnie Beaupre, Norma Orr, Heddys Stevenson, Tom Orr, Kim Evoy, Janet Jones, Diane Marshall, Rhea McAdam, Harry Stewart, Therese Samuel, Thom McDonough, Anne Jones, Lavine Livesey, Sharon Lane, Wilma Oliver, Judith Rose, Clare Walker.

Regrets: Nancy Ferguson, Jane Graham, Elaine Craig, Janet Norman, Laurie Milito, Rolly MacLean, Betty Mills, Brian Mundell, Nancy Mundell, Aileen Hadden, Nancy Rouble, Barbara Frasier.

Guests: Bev Robinson, London Conference; Ailsa Hanson, St. Joseph Island; Mary Stewart, guest speaker, Mozambique project.

MINUTES: The Minutes of February 20 & 21, 2009 meeting were approved and the minutes of March 16 executive minutes were accepted.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT: Heddys Stevenson

Mozambique Garden project: Many of our churches/charges are participating; almost \$4,500 was raised within our Presbytery...enough for two garden projects. Guest Mary Stewart, a member of the group that went on this mission, gave an informative presentation on the work the Christian Council of Mozambique (CCM) and church groups are doing in the Mozambique area. She also had pictures of the medicinal gardens that our churches/charges have been donating towards. **M & S:** Year to date, donations for this work is 50 % higher than last year.

****more information from this committee in Appendix****

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Concern was raised that this important committee is still in limbo. Phil Miller was thanked for continuing to take care of financial issues even though it isn't the treasurer's

job, per se.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Phil Miller

Everything is still fine. Phil was able to pay the full assessment amount already to London Conference.

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EDUCATION AND STUDENTS: Helen Smith

- ▶ Rev. John Porter and Rev. Eun-Joo Park continue work with their Educational Advisory Committees. Both have recently completed the first of the course requirements from Queen's University. The Education and Student's Committee will be receiving a written report from each of their committees by June 1, 2009.
- ▶ Jana Howson continues her studies through Emmanuel College and will return there this summer for more intensive courses and looks to becoming a full time student in the near future.
- ▶ The first discernment meeting was held for Lorna Chuipka in Wawa. Aaron Palmer's Discernment Committee cannot begin until after October 2009, two years after he officially became a member of the United Church of Canada.
- ▶ The Committee will meet in the near future to look at these and other Education and Students concerns.
- ▶ Check the website for full report. The most up to date LLWL list is there.

FAITH FORMATION: Larry Burton

- ▶ LLWL program has 10 people signed up and 4 others have indicated interest. Janet Norman and Larry Burton will conduct this program over 2 years in various churches, running 4 weekend sessions. The first will start this November. Jan Schenell is the registrar and contact person.
- ▶ Christian Development will host a Seniors' Day on Wednesday, April 29 at Willowgrove United Church from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Janet Norman will lead a presentation on art therapy.
- ▶ Video night for teens will be held at Willowgrove on April 25.

Update on the Focus on the Gay Family: Harry Stewart

The event is to be held Sept. 18 to 20, 2009 primarily at the Great Northern Hotel with services and meals at Willowgrove United Church. We have met several times with the City GLBT folks, which bring significant diversity to the planning committee. They

brought forward that fact that there is no representation from any of the City churches on this committee. We need this representation to complete the committee. We received \$5,000 from the national church and \$1,500 from the Learning grant program as well. We are currently seeking donations and support from various groups and organizations.

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PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT - Leone Hamilton

► During Rev. Norine St. Jean's medical leave of absence, Brian Mundell will supervise the pastoral charge.

► **Moved, seconded and carried:** Be it resolved that Algoma Presbytery approve the appointment of Helen Smith, designated lay minister to Willowgrove United pastoral charge from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 under the following conditions: part time: 30 hours/week

Salary	\$ 27,010(category "D")
Housing	9,225
Telephone	600
Study/books	<u>1,200</u>
Total	\$39,025

Notes: Mileage at .39 per km as logged (capped) and vacation: 1 month

► **Moved, seconded and carried:** Be it resolved that Algoma Presbytery approve the appointment of Rev. Eun Joo Park, ordained supply to St. Joseph Island pastoral charge from August 1, 2009 to July 31, 2010 under the following conditions: part time: fulltime - 40 hours/week

Salary	\$ 35,686
Manse	12,000
Telephone	293.28 (under review)
Study/books	<u>1,200</u>
Total	\$49,179.28

Notes: Mileage at .50 per km as logged (capped @ 7,200 km – additional travel subject to Finance Committee approval) and vacation: 5 weeks (25 working days)

► **Moved, seconded and carried:** Be it resolved that Algoma Presbytery approve the appointment of Thom McDonough, designated lay minister to Goulais River pastoral charge from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 under the following conditions: part time: part

time 16 hours/week

Salary	\$ 13,814
Housing	4,800
Study/books	<u>500</u>
Total	\$19,114

Notes: Mileage at .39 per km as logged and vacation: 1 month

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

► Presbytery reports will still be posted to the website and will be in the minutes; in addition, **brief** highlights will be presented at Presbytery meetings by chairs due to requests by Presbyters.

► A Pet blessing will take place on Saturday, May 9 at the Humane Society in Sault Ste. Marie. For information call Joyce at 949-3573.

► Concern regarding the weekend date for the Camp McDougall 50th anniversary was raised. It was mentioned that if they expect people from far away to attend, it should be on a long weekend of they may not want to drive the distance for one day.

Moved, seconded and carried: that Ailsa Hanson be appointed to the position of Secretary for Algoma Presbytery at the rise of Conference.

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

Moved, seconded and carried: to extend the Powers of Presbytery to the Executive until the next full meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned after the worship service and lunch.

NEXT MEETING: The next Presbytery meeting will take place on September 18 & 19, 2009 at St. Andrew's in Sault Ste. Marie.

DOREEN SPROULE, Chair

— RHEA McADAM, Secretary

APPENDIX

Algoma Presbytery Meetings ~ 2009 (● denotes confirmation)

June 18 ●	Willowgrove
August 20 ●	Bruce Mines
September 18 & 19 ●	St. Andrew's, Sault Ste. Marie
October 15 ●	Desbarats
November 20 & 21	???

CAMP McDOUGALL REPORT: John Porter

- ▶ Everything is on schedule for the summer.
- ▶ Treasury: good financial position, but most of money is spoke for.
- ▶ Six positions fully funded by Human Resources Development Canada; 8 positions applied for through Ministry of Northern Development & Mines for \$2 per hour.
- ▶ Staff hired: back to full complement...may be bit of a risk but necessary to have that many staff if we get the same number of campers as last year.
- ▶ Churches requested to promote camp in congregations due to poor economy and also provide as many sponsorships as possible. **Proposal:** That the Board communicate on the registration form that it costs \$400 per camper to send them to camp. Give options for

payment of \$400, \$300 and the regular \$250 in hopes that some will pay the higher amounts.

- ▶ The raising of Warren house will be completed in May.
- ▶ The Wolgemuth family has been contacted with a request to use their memorial to purchase a new stove.
- ▶ Camp is looking for chaplains this year to come from clergy due to the fact that children need these role models in their upbringing.
- ▶ Terry Ainsley will upgrade the road into camp.
- ▶ The Board no longer will do pasta dinners for fundraising. They request that churches/charges take on this task.
- ▶ **Proposal:** Could churches/charges adopt a cabin and take care of maintenance and cleaning?

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT: Heddys Stevenson

Overseas Partners: Overseas personnel from London Conference serve in Japan and Mozambique. A list of requests for people to serve overseas is available from the United Church website. Click the link below to read their letters:

http://www.stpaulsunitedchurch.com/Mozambique_2009_5876.html

- Rob & Keiko Witmer – Japan

Accompaniment Program: The Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI) seeks to support local and international efforts to end the Israeli occupation and bring a resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with a just peace, based on international law and relevant United Nations resolutions.

United For Peace: The United for Peace Campaign, which will run from November 4, 2007, to December 2009, was approved at the 39th General Council 2006 out of grave concern for the situation in Israel and Palestine. The scope of the campaign has been broadened by the General Council Executive to also address violence and the need to work toward just peace in Canada and in other parts of the world.

Gambling

The United Church, with a long history of concern about gambling and gaming, has been persistently outspoken against its recent expansion,

and urges its members to avoid using funds generated from gambling activities. Traditional reasons for opposition to gambling include the following:

- It defines success materially, with very few "winners" succeeding at the expense of the vast majority of "losers." Building "the people" is replaced by competition among individuals.
- It goes against an equitable division of God's creation amongst God's people.
- It exploits the vulnerable in the community (problem gamblers and those affected by their behaviour) by vested interests.

The United Church is gravely concerned about recent changes:

- gambling is becoming more addictive and accessible
- gambling is controlled by large corporations instead of small businesses
- gambling has become a source of government revenue that replaces community taxation with gamblers' losses
- gambling is legitimized by being linked to charities.

Protecting the social safety net is our way of doing what the early followers of Jesus did in distributing basic goods for widows and orphans: it is not a charity, but duty that should be shared by all taxpayers.