

**ALGOMA PRESBYTERY
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

FEBRUARY 22 & 23, 2008

PRESBYTERY MEETING

2007-08

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The full court of Algoma Presbytery met on Friday, February 22 and Saturday, February 23, 2008 at East Korah Maxwell United Church, beginning at 1 p.m. Chairperson Doreen Sproule led the meeting and a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE:

Order of Ministry: Norine St. Jean, Betty Pretty, Rolly MacLean, Nancy Ferguson, Thom McDonough, Larry Burton, Doreen Sproule, Marilyn Billings, Janet Norman, Phil Miller, Eun-Joo Park, John Porter, Helen Smith, Bruce McLeish.

Laity: Jane Graham, Nancy Beilhartz, Anne Jones, Joyce Mertes, Diane Marshall, Sandy Fulcher, Nancy Rouble, Fred Bright, Verna Lapish, Ruby Vaughan, Linda Hedderson, Leone Hamilton, Betty Mills, Bonnie Beaupre, Lavine Livesey, Harry Stewart, Brian Mundell, Mary McCormick, Wilma Oliver, Elaine Craig, Norma Orr, Nancy Mundell, Elizabeth Hendron-Roberge, Rob McCutcheon, Aileen Hadden, Rhea McAdam.

Guests: Marnie McDonough, Treasurer, Camp McDougall; Bruce Cook, London Conference

Regrets: Janet Schenell, Heddys Stevenson, Clare Walker, Kim Evoy, Tom Orr, Erin Todd, Laurie Milito, Joy McPhee, Judith Rose, Janet Jones.

Opening: Rev. Doreen Sproule, Chair of Algoma Presbytery, announced that Bruce Cook from London Conference would be our guest on Saturday morning, and new representatives Lavine Livesey from Harmony-St. Marks/Grace and Elizabeth Hendron-Roberge from Wawa were introduced.

MINUTES: The Minutes of November 16 & 17, 2007 meeting will be amended and distributed for purusal before the April Presbytery meeting. Minutes of the August 16, 2007 executive meeting were received.

EDUCATION AND STUDENTS: Wilma Oliver

Jana Howson has been accepted at Emmanuel College and will be attending the openhouse for prospective students on the 1st of March. In the meantime she continues her work with youth in her congregation in Illinois. At the same time she is taking "Philosophy of Religion" course at Illinois Central College. Jana is looking forward to attending Kairos 2008 at Five Oaks in August and plans to take two and possibly three intensive courses at Emmanuel this summer.

Rev. Eun-Joo Park and her appointment advisory committee are winding up their time together in discernment and we should be receiving their report soon.

Rev. John Porter and his appointment advisory team are also wrapping up their time of discernment together and we are awaiting that report also.

The E&S committee met this month and interviewed Nan Cressman the final LLWL and to review the guidelines and requirements for licensing of the LLWLs.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Norine St. Jean

Treasurer's Report: Phil Miller -

Moved, seconded and carried: that Algoma Presbytery accepts the Treasurer's report.

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT - Leone Hamilton

The clergy from Willowgrove, St. Joseph Island and Thessalon must have their police checks available for Marilyn Billings and Betty Mills at the April meeting.

Appointment forms should be given to Pastoral Relations in time to be presented at the April meeting.

Moved, seconded and carried: Be it resolved that Algoma Presbytery declare a vacancy at Central United Church for a fulltime, ordered person by a call by appointment.

Moved, seconded and carried: Be it resolved that a Search Committee be formed at Central United Church.

Moved, seconded and carried: Be it resolved that the retirement of Marilyn Billings from Rydal Bank pastoral charge be accepted, effective June 30, 2008.

Moved, seconded and carried: Be it resolved that a JNAC be developed by the Rydal Bank pastoral charge.

Moved, seconded and carried: Be it resolved that the request of Rev. Erin Todd for a change of pastoral relations, forgiving the 90-day notice, be granted.

Moved, seconded and carried: Be it resolved that a JNAC be developed by the Wawa pastoral charge.

Because Wawa has always been a settlement charge, and they had not entered into the visioning Process, it was decided that they be allowed to seek settlement, without a 3-year appointment.

Moved, seconded and carried: Be it resolved that the Wawa pastoral charge be excluded from the issue of time limitation.

A modified JNAC has been a work in progress for Willowgrove, so that they can investigate time allotment for ministry and develop a job description. It will be reviewed annually.

Moved, seconded and carried: to accept the Pastoral Relations Committee report.

FAITH FORMATION/ COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT: Larry Burton

Visioning: Chris Tossell, architect, will study all city church buildings, plus the Goulais building, in order to assess the status of each. A draft report will be ready for April 30 and will be available to each congregation by May 14. The cost is estimated to be approximately \$12,000 instead of \$25,000 due to the diligence of the hard working members of each congregation. Conversations are ongoing between congregations. A joint service will take place April 20 at John Wesley -- hymn sing at 6:45 p.m. followed by the service of worship at 7 p.m.

Christian development: Please see Appendix.

Camp McDougall report: Please see Appendix.

UCW report: Please see Appendix.

Christian Development report: Please see Appendix.

Moved, seconded and carried: to accept the Faith Formation Committee report.

PASTORAL CARE & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT: Thom McDonough

Members of the Pastoral Care and Oversight Committee include Bruce McLeish, Jan Schenell, Rolly MacLean, Judith Rose, Jane Graham, Aileen Hadden and Thom McDonough.

The ARC is now closed. Norma went through the final financial information. **Moved, seconded and carried:** that Algoma Presbytery accepts the recommendations of the Board of Directors and dissolve the Board of Directors of the Algoma Resource Center.

- 1 The Committee met via conference call on January 31st and discussed a number of items:
 - Handling of the annual reports
 - Pastoral charges are reminded that annual reports are needed as soon as possible. Two copies will be sent or given to Bruce McLeish, Willowgrove United Church to be reviewed by Committee.
 - Workshop for prospective visiting teams – putting together the nature of that workshop - might be a short, one-hour orientation. It might be best to get the teams together and then go over the expectations with them.
 - Goulais River visit has been set for February 29. Rolly MacLean is leading this visit and has put the team together.
 - Interesting impact already – Duty of Care
 - Central has just been given notification and we are waiting to hear from the Church council as to possible dates for the visit. Thom McDonough will be leading this visit.
 - Still require a group to be put together for the visit to John Wesley United Church and the Echo Bay pastoral charge.
 - Need volunteers to be part of visiting teams.
- 2 Camp McDougall's response to their pastoral care and oversight visit has been received and incorporated into the report itself. A full copy is appended to this report and is available for members of Presbytery to inspect and review. This report will be followed up as per the procedures put in place by the PCOC. A copy will have to go to London Conference office.
- 3 Want to highlight the Congregational Organization Handbook that is available on the United Church website. It is a good resource for making sure that your pastoral charge is doing the things that it should be.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- 1) The Presbytery executive meeting will be take place June 26, 2008 at Johnn Wesley.
- 2) **Camp McDougall fundriasers:** The Central Algoma cluster group will host a community breakfast in the Desbarats arena on Saturday, April. There will be a kitchen party on April
- 3) London Conference AGM will take place on May 23, 24, 25, 2008. **Moved, seconded and carried:** that the executive be authorized to comprise a list of members at large for attendance at Conference. Presbyters expressing interest include Norma Orr, Elaine Craig, Verna Lapish, Bonnie Beaupre, Lavine Livesey, Rhea McAdam and Nancy Beilhartz.

CLOSING: Courtesies were made by Thom McDonough.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at noon after the worship service, followed by lunch.

NEXT MEETING: The next Presbytery meeting will take place on April 18 & 19, 2008 at Thessalon United Church.

DOREEN SPROULE, Chair

RHEA McADAM, Secretary

APPENDIX

Camp McDougall Report ~ November 17, 2007

Robert McCutcheon, Chair

Camp McDougall Treasurer's Report to Feb. 23/08

2007 Revenue	\$103,278.34
2007 Expenses	<u>\$ 96,362.84</u>
NET	\$ 6,915.50

Bank Statement to Dec.. 31/07	\$6,984.53
Actual Bank Balance to Feb. 22/08	\$7,289.99
Outstanding Cheques	-\$2,000 approx.
Designated Memorial donation	-\$1,000
Accessible Funds	\$4,289.99

Donations received for 2008 Season since Dec.1/07 \$3,380

Other Assets:

1. \$5,000 Overdraft, secured by same amount GIC
2. \$10,000 Bequest for Capital Projects – GIC

Property Assessment 2007 Value (850 Foot Frontage + 31.59 Acres)
\$235,000 (*copy of Notice to Presbytery Treasurer*)

NEXT FUNDRAISING EVENT:

PASTA DINNER COMING UP IN APRIL

2008

\$579 Learning Grant for Director & Assistant Director to attend OCA Conference – very beneficial & worthwhile

UCC Learning-in-Community Grant for Board Training Event held Jan. 26th – no decision yet. Total expense was \$800. Website -- easier access to print registration form -- 2008 schedule posted soon
www.campmcdougall.com

Registration fee increase of \$10/week

Camp McDougall Budget comparison 2007-08

	<u>2008</u>	2007 budget	07 Actual <i>unaudited</i>	Difference
<u>Revenue:</u>				
Camper Fees (275)***	64,000	68230	48977.21	-19,252.79

Fundraising-2 Pasta Dinners	2200	2000	1174.63	-825.37
Gifts: receipted Allocated	2500	2500	12065	9,565
Gifts Church Organizations	2500	4500	3865	-635
Gifts Donated Camper Fees (25)	3000	2500	1994.5	-505.5
Algoma Presbytery	20,000	15000	15000	
Interest Income	110	110		
Grants: (same as 2007 Actual)				
Northern Develop. & Mines	3400	3400	3400	
YMCA Summer	0			
HRDC Grant	16802	16802	16802	
UCC Capitial Grants	300	300		
Total Revenue	<u>114,812</u>	<u>115342</u>	<u>103278.34</u>	-11,653.66
EXPENSES:				
Promotion-Advertising	2500	2500	2077.36	
(Tee Shirts-10.53@-2006 expense)	0	0	0	
Web Page Annual Fee & Maintenance	200	200	0	
Staff Salaries-Sheet 3	<u>52,083.43</u>	48339.85	48848.6	
Total Salaries & Benefits	<u>54783.43</u>	<u>51039.85</u>	<u>50925.96</u>	-113.89
<u>Operations-Sheet 2</u>	<u>27850</u>	<u>27300</u>	<u>22783.73</u>	<u>-4,516.27</u>
<u>Property:</u>				
Camp Computer,				
Printer+Copier Supplies	1000	2000	2084.1	
Capital Expenses	10,000	2000	0	
Fund Capital Repairs	4500	4500		
Repairs/Maintenance	2000	2000	7673.22	
Workdays	500	500		
Consumables-Water	2000	2000	1576.91	
Piano Tuning	85	85	0	
Water Testings	1500	750	1351.88	
Total Property	<u>21585</u>	<u>13835</u>	<u>12686.11</u>	-1,148.89
<u>Finance</u>				
Algoma Presbytery Loan				
Payment	1,000	1000	1000	
Insurance	7,400	7400	7026.48	
Board Travel	200	200	0	
50th Anniversary				
Celebrations	200	0	0	
Office-				
postage/copies/bookkeeping	200	200	287.97	
Bookkeeper Services	0	1000	525	

Audit & Legal	800	800	800	
Bad Debts	200	200	0	
Interest Charges	100	100	9.18	
Bank Charges	125	75	318.41	
<u>Total Finance</u>	10,225	10,975	9967.04	-1,007.96
Total Expenditures	114,443	103,149.85	96,362.84	-6787.01

Marnie McDonough, Treasurer

UCW REPORT: Ruby Vaughan

On Saturday, January 19, members of Algoma Presbyterial met for a gathering at St. Andrews Church, SSM. Despite a snow storm, 40 members attended.

Guest speaker was Janis Poulin, Soo Gramma Unilimited, who explained why the HIV/Aids moves through the body so quickly, resulting in early death in most cases. She also gave a visual presentation of four African families dealing with HIV/Aids. We were given information that Africa has become a continent of orphans. Approximately 13 million children have been orphaned by AIDS and the number is expected to reach 20 million by 2010. Grandmothers have had to bury their own children and accept the responsibility of parenting their grandchildren with very little support. In some countries, 40 to 60 per cent of orphans live in grandmother-based households.

After lunch, we celebrated Norma Orr and her work at the ARC which had been serving the Presbytery for 32 years. Thought that time, Norma had been very helpful in providing material in order to present up to date information at meetings.

A play entitled "The Visitor" was presented by the Algoma U.C.W. Players (executive members). This was followed by a discussion about welcoming newcomers to U.C.W. meetings.

On March 1, Clare Walker will give a presentation on her visits to various churches during her recent trip. We also look forward to a visit from president Beth.

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT: Nancy Mundell

The September Senior's Day was informative and fun, with a presentation from Sheila Currie, who shared pictures and stories about her travels to Antarctica. Helen Smith, Nancy Mundell and Bonnie Beaupre attended a meeting in Richards Landing to support development of a children/youth program. The October 13 UCW Presbyterial covered issues arising from the theme "Challenging Empire...A Call to Community". We continue to support the interests of Camp McDougall and other needs for continuing educational events.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT: Joyce Mertes

Since our last Presbytery meeting I have received seven M&S Newsletters, some quite lengthy, from Matthew Stevens at London Conference Office. I am attempting to bring to you the highlights of these Newsletters in this report and am not touching on the many ideas he shares for M&S fundraising projects. However, I do want to make an effort to put him in touch electronically with Pastoral Charge Enthusiasts who are on-line. I will refer to this matter again at the end of my report. M&SN #5 – Matthew favours sharing the Minute for Mission reading every Sunday, although some congregations have it monthly or occasionally. In a later Newsletter he shares the idea of having one of the children read it before going to Church School.

General Council Executive has increased the M&S goal for 2008 from \$30.5 million to \$31.5 million. If this goal is achieved it would mean a temporary reprieve on further mission reductions.

M& SN #6 – Matthew encourages congregations to share successful and innovative M&S projects with others and suggests sending pictures with a write-up by e-mail to :

Matthew@londonconference.ca. These could be used in an M&SN issue with the sender's permission.

For 2008, the M&S response forms were sent directly to all Pastoral Charges. (Refer to letter, pp. 3 & 4) Pastoral Charges have been directed to enter their goals electronically, or mail them back to the M&S office in Toronto. In April the Presbytery reps will receive a list from the M&S office of those congregations who have not submitted a goal, and then we will need to contact these charges directly by June. If the form is lost, contact the M&S office at 1-800-268-3781 or by e-mail at ms@united-church.ca.

M&SN #7 – “Where does all of this M&S money get used? (See answers, p. 4)

This was followed by a beautiful Christmas card to us all from Matthew. His message follows: “It’s been my privilege to work with you since joining the staff of London Conference. In this Advent season of Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace, I just want to take this opportunity to wish you and yours the very Merriest of Christmases, and the Happiest of New Years. I look forward to the coming year with keen anticipation of our continuing collegial friendship, and the promise of consistent cooperation. May 2008 be a year of rewarding accomplishments for you.”

M&SN #8 - In this Newsletter, his first for 2008, Matthew refers to the phrase in the United Church Creed, “To live with respect in creation,” by saying that “it is sometimes tempting to think of our M&S ministry simply in terms of fundraising, but it is by no means the whole of it. Our responsible stewardship of the resources we already have is at least of equal importance, and in terms of our human footprint upon Mother Earth even more so.”

M&SN #9 – In this 9-page mailing, Matthew gave a lot of details about the setting of the M&S objective for 2008 of \$31.5 million, and continues with several fundraising ideas for congregations.

M&SN #10 – Much of this Newsletter dealt with the same concerns that we face here in Algoma Presbytery, i.e. dwindling congregations, churches that are expensive to maintain and not fully used. He closes with a thought-provoking question: “Are we as a committed part of the body of Christ, making the best possible use of the resources we already have in the furtherance of the true mission of Christ in this community?”

M&SN #11 – This Newsletter, received Feb. 20, gives the total M&S givings for 2007, which amounted to \$29,976,796, less than the budgeted goal of \$30,200,000, and a fund-raising goal of \$30,500,000. For consideration, if every United Church member gave \$60 in total, we would surpass our target. However, only 23% of our members give to M&S.

The good news is that in London Conference, total givings to M&S came to \$2,931,267, a 128.67% of the London Conference Objective of \$2,278,183. This is also reflected in the total for Algoma Presbytery, which amounted to \$191,399, 116.74% of the objective of \$163,950. Good for us!

Matthew leaves us with this message for Lent: “The Lenten season is a time for reflection and some personal introspection, a time to take stock of our lives, and determine what being a follower of Jesus really means to us. This Lenten season might be a time when we could remind our sisters and brothers that, as Christians, we’re called to be actively engaged in the mission of justice, healing and reconciliation in this world.”