

ALGOMA PRESBYTERY
of The United Church of Canada

February 24 and 25, 2012

PRESBYTERY MEETING

2011-2012

37

The full court of Algoma Presbytery met on Friday, February 24 and Saturday, February 25, 2012 at John Wesley United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Chair-Elect Wilda Ryckman led the meeting and a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE

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

Laity: Joyce Biggs, Lorna Chiupka, Kim Evoy, Leone Hamilton, Bonnie Johnson, Nancy Juby, Bonnie Kirk, Sharon Lane, Verna Lapish, Lavine Livesey, Robin MacLeod, Diane Marshall, Shirley Meeks, Brian Mundell, Norma Orr, Tom Orr, Susan Ralph, David Root, Wilda Ryckman, Heddys Stevenson, Bill Walker, Clare Walker, Clare Weatherby, Ailsa Hanson

Regrets: Betty Allen, Fred Bright, Sandy Fulcher, Jane Graham, Linda Hedderson, Marnie McDonough, Thom McDonough, Betty Mills, Betty Pretty

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

At 5 p.m., Wilda Ryckman welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced herself, and lit the Christ candle as she 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-Elect, I now declare this meeting constituted for the transaction of such business as may properly come before it.*" New Presbyters Shirley Meeks (Grace United, St. Joseph Island Pastoral Charge), and Nancy Juby and Susan Ralph (Willowgrove United) were introduced to the court. Wilda led us in a time of prayer. After singing the Johnny Appleseed grace, Presbyters enjoyed a wonderful meal and time of fellowship.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved, seconded and carried that the agenda be adopted as printed and amended. (The Outreach report was moved to the top of the list of committee reports. The full Church Extension Council report was deferred to April's Presbytery meeting.)

MINUTES

Moved, seconded and carried that the Presbytery minutes of November 18 & 19, 2011 be approved, and that the Presbytery Executive minutes of October 20, 2011 be received for information.

CORRESPONDENCE

In accordance with the requirements of the new "Admission to the Order of Ministry" Policy, the following names were read to the court:

Ministers to be recommended for Admission from other denominations:

Name	Denomination	Recommending Conference
Richard (Ryk) Alan Brown	Presbyterian Church in Canada	Hamilton
Douglas Edward du Charme	Presbyterian Church in Canada	Toronto
George Karl Meier	United Church of Christ	British Columbia
Kurt Anders Richardson	Baptist Convention of Ontario & Quebec	Hamilton

Ministers to be recommended for Re-admission :

Name	Recommending Presbytery
Douglas Napier McLeod	South West, Toronto Conference
Jay Olson	Victoria, British Columbia

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

RESPONSIBILITIES, JOYS AND CHALLENGES OF BEING A GC COMMISSIONER

Joyce Biggs from Emmanuel United Church spoke eloquently about her experiences as a Commissioner to the 40th Meeting of General Council, responded to questions, and urged Presbyters to consider allowing their names to be put forward to London Conference as nominees for the August 11 to 18, 2012 GC Meeting in Ottawa.

EXTENSION COUNCIL REPORT

A full report will come to the April Presbytery meeting.

REMIT 6A, 6B and 6C

Nancy Ferguson and Janet Norman began discussion of the Remit by randomly handing out slips of paper containing phrases of the New Creed, and inviting those without the papers to put the text into the proper order. After that very visual exercise, the court broke into small groups to discuss short sections of the Articles of Faith (1925), the Statement of Faith (1940), and the Song of Faith (2006). The following three questions from the Resource package were considered for each of our Faith statements: How does it touch your heart?; What does it mean in your daily life?; and “Has it become cherished, honoured and living?” There was lively and sometimes passionate discussion.

WORSHIP AND COMMUNION (Saturday)

Wilda Ryckman and Larry Burton led worship that included several hymns, some time of silent reflection, and a communion liturgy from the Song of Faith.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MOTIONS FOR ACTION**Outreach: Heddys Stevenson**

- Mission and Service Objective response forms have been e-mailed to all Pastoral Charges.

- The former Church in Society and Division of World Outreach are now under one umbrella called Social Justice. Two issues were brought up at the last meeting – lack of affordable housing especially in the London area, and the Israel/Palestine conflict.
- There will be a group coming from Japan for a visit to Southern Ontario with Rob Witmer, visiting farms around London.
- Heddys gave some background and then led a brief discussion of the situation in Attawapiskat.

Education and Students: Helen Smith

Nancy Ferguson assumed the chair during the presentation of the motion.

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that, having completed the necessary requirements as per The United Church Manual, Section 344d, the following be approved as Licensed Lay Worship Leaders for the year 2012: Frank Allen, Cathy Bright, Lorna Chiupka, Cathy Drapeau, Kim Evoy, Lorna Greene, Jane Graham, Vivian Hall, Marnie McDonough, Brian Mundell, Nancy Mundell, Marie Rinne, Nancy Rouble, Wilda Ryckman, Gordon Stone, Margaret Tait and Wanda Wilding. (There were four declarations of conflict.)

Wilda Ryckman reassumed the chair.

- Andrew Muncaster has withdrawn from the discernment process; his committee will meet with him once more.

Faith Formation and Communications: David Root for Eun-Joo Park

- Only one application was received for Youth Forum at General Council.
Moved, seconded and carried that Algoma Presbytery recommends Jacqueline Warner-Smith, age 15, from Central United Church for Youth Forum.
- Another workshop with Kempton Hewitt will be offered; tentative dates are June 26 or June 28. More information will follow.
- The Christian Development Sub-committee is hosting a traditional family picnic on Anniversary Sunday, June 10, 2012 from 2 to 8 p.m. at the Laird Fairgrounds. Assistance with various activities was requested, and posters were distributed.
- A Confirmation Camp will be held at Camp McDougall for youth ages 13 to 15, the weekend of September 14 to 16.

Finance and Administration

Treasurer's Report: Bill Walker

Bill circulated a Revenue and Expenses Statement and Balance Sheet. (Appendix B)

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that the Financial Statements for Algoma Presbytery be accepted as presented for the year ending December 31, 2011.

Nominations: Helen Smith – no report

Pastoral Care and Oversight

Wilda advised that Chair Thom McDonough would be presenting a vision for Pastoral Oversight to the April Presbytery.

Pastoral Relations: Brian Mundell

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery approve the re-appointment of Rev. Dr. John E. Porter as ordained full-time minister to the Thessalon Pastoral Charge from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 under the following conditions:

Full-time	
Salary	\$40,230.00
Housing	12,000.00
Telephone	paid
Continuing Education	<u>1,275.00</u>
Total	\$53,505.00

Mileage @ \$0.41 per km

Vacation as per United Church policy

(There was one declaration of conflict.)

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery approve the re-appointment of Mrs. Helen Smith, Designated Lay Minister, to East Korah Maxwell United Church from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 under the following conditions:

Half-time	20 hrs/week
Salary	\$19,466.50
Housing	6,000.00
Telephone	600.00
Continuing Education	<u>637.50</u>
Total	\$26,704.00

Mileage @ \$0.41 per km

Vacation as per United Church policy

(There was one declaration of conflict.)

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery approve the re-appointment of Thom McDonough, Designated Lay Minister, to Goulais River United Church from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 under the following conditions:

Part-time	16 hrs/week
Salary	\$15,001.56
Housing	4,800.00
Telephone	360.00
Continuing Education	<u>510.00</u>
Total	\$20,671.56

Mileage @ \$0.41 per km

Vacation as per United Church policy

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery call Rev. Dr. David Zub (Ordained) to serve Willowgrove United Church in Sault Ste. Marie effective March 12, 2012 under the following terms and conditions:

Full time	
Salary	\$42,240.00
Housing	15,000.00
Telephone	600.00
Continuing Education	<u>1,275.00</u>
Total	\$59,115.00

Mileage @ \$0.41 per km

Vacation as per United Church policy

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

REMIT 6

After a brief review of the previous evening's discussion, ballots were distributed. The votes were counted and recorded. For Remit 6A, 21 voted 'yes' and 11 voted 'no.' For Remit 6B, 31 Presbyters voted 'yes', and one voted 'no'. For Remit 6C, there were 22 'yes' votes and 10 'no' votes.

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that the ballots be destroyed.

NOMINATION OF GC COMMISSIONERS

There was discussion in the court.

- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Algoma Presbytery nominate the following as Commissioners to the 41st General Council gathering in Ottawa in August 2012: Matthew Alloy (under 18), Larry Burton, Bonnie Kirk, Rolly MacLean, David Root, Helen Smith.
- **Moved, seconded and carried** that Jamie Kirk be nominated to attend Young Adults in Training.

CAMP MCDOUGALL: John Porter

- The Board is working hard; staff has been hired with the exception of a cook and assistant cook. (If Presbyters know of anyone looking for this type of work, please pass on the information.)
- The septic system still has to be replaced, and a part is missing from the dishwasher that was donated. An alternative will have to be purchased.
- Work is continuing on putting together a Rainbow Camp for youth ages 14 to 17; this is for LGBT young people and those raised in same-gender families. Staff for this camp will receive special training.
- Clean-up at camp will be every Saturday in May.
- There are two cabins waiting to be 'adopted.'

NEW BUSINESS

- **Website** – David Root led a discussion on the value of a website presence, along with the possibility of moving to Facebook. The Faith Formation and Communications Committee would recommend that we have both. Our current Webmaster Harry Stewart has said that ongoing maintenance of the present site is not a passion for him, and that he would not be unhappy to be replaced.

Moved, seconded and carried that Algoma Presbytery thanks Harry Stewart for all his services rendered to the Presbytery setting up the website and serving as its Webmaster.

Moved, seconded and carried that Presbytery asks the Executive to explore other options for obtaining the services of a suitably qualified Webmaster and report back to the April Presbytery meeting.

Moved, seconded and carried that Algoma Presbytery establish a Facebook page, with David Root and Clare Weatherby as the two overseeing Administrators.

It was requested that there be some familiarization/training provided for Presbyters.

- **London Conference Annual Meeting** – Karen McLean (Goulais River), Wilda Ryckman and Ailsa Hanson have expressed interest in attending the Annual Meeting in May in London. Presbyters will check with their congregations, and any other names will be forwarded to the Secretary and will be recorded in the March Executive minutes.
- **UCW** – Clare Walker reported on the 50th Anniversary celebrations. In Algoma Presbytery, there are 116 Charter members. The next meeting of Presbyterial is March 3 at Willowgrove, and there will be a special luncheon honouring those charter members. The National UCW is hoping to raise \$50,000 for training women in maternal and infant care at the Morogor Women's Training Centre in Tanzania, of which \$1,500 has already been collected in Algoma. Marnie McDonough wrote a worship service for the 50th anniversary, and hers was one of four being made available on-line for use across the country. Heddys Stevenson is the Chair of the Social Justice Committee for the Conference UCW, and Clare is first Vice-President. She will be installed as London Conference UCW President at the Annual Gathering in April 2013. Seven women from Algoma are going to the National UCW meeting in Ancaster in July, for which Heddys designed a banner. The Court expressed congratulations and best wishes to the UCW for their incredible 50 years of service.

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 12:15 p.m.

Larry Burton led the court in grace. Courtesies were extended to the folks at John Wesley who provided such generous hospitality throughout the meeting.

NEXT MEETINGS:

The next meeting of Algoma Presbytery will take place April 20 and 21, 2012 at Bar River United Church.

The next meeting of the Presbytery Executive will take place March 15, 2012 at St. Andrew's United Church, Sault Ste. Marie.

Appendix A
CORRESPONDENCE
Received since January 20, 2012

From	Topic	Action
Matthew Stevens	Request for Submissions to Mandate Magazine	Forwarded to Presbyters
Abiel Khalema	Admission/Re-Admission to the Order of Ministry in The United Church of Canada	Read into Minutes of February 2102 Presbytery Meeting
Tom Broadhurst	2011 Statistical & Information Forms	To February Presbytery
Echo Bay Pastoral Charge via e-mail	Finances	To Presbytery Chair
Matthew Stevens	2012 Mission & Service Fund Objective Response Form	Forwarded to Presbyters and brought to February Presbytery