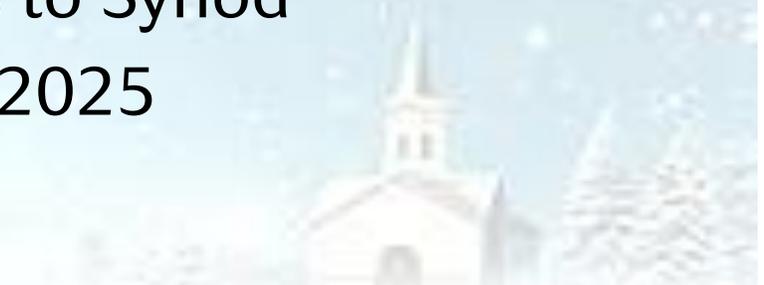




Muskoka Deanery Council

Tuesday
February 24th
7:00pm via zoom

Agenda

1. Opening Reflection
 2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
 3. Review and Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 4. Business arising from the Minutes
 5. Ministry Reports: Archdeacon, ACW, Deanery, Social Justice, AFC
 6. Review and Adoption of the Financial Report
 7. Discussion Item: Funding for Youth Delegates to Synod
 8. Discussion Item: Motions arising from Synod 2025
 9. Additional Business
 10. Adjourn
- 

MINUTES OF THE DEANERY COUNCIL: OCTOBER 28, 2025

The meeting was held over zoom with 16 people in attendance. Rev. Heather called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. We started with a Pause for Prayer on Facebook (for Jamaica/Caymen Islands).

Agenda - Moved by Sharon Boyuk, Seconded by Jinny Flye that the minutes be adopted as presented. Carried.

Minutes of Previous Meeting - Moved by Jacquie Howell, Seconded by John Dunbar, that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as circulated. Carried

Financial Report - A discussion regarding considerations for how to build up the coffers in the deanery account in order to cover youth delegates' synod expenses. We will revisit this at the February meeting. Jinny asked if everyone had paid their dues and whether it is to be paid by parish or congregation. We are to have that answer for next meeting. Moved by Edna Murdy, Seconded by Nora Goltz that the Financial Report be accepted as circulated. Carried.

October 2025 minutes continued...

Archdeacon's Report – Rev. Kelly advised that the Anglican Weekly News can still be signed up for. We are still looking for a representative from Muskoka for the Anne Germond Legacy Fund Committee. She also provided a message from the Archbishop which we were asked to share.

Anne Wilson – Anglican Foundation and Legacy Fund Committee Member – Anne advised that this month is membership month and you can make a donation by going to donate@anglicanfoundation.org or phoning 877-354-6387. Please keep the Anglican Foundation in mind for grants for ministry projects.

Layreaders' Conference went very well. It was mentioned that we have been unable to find the links to the conference sessions which were to have been posted on the website.

ACW – tomorrow Peter Sanguinetti (speaker, musician, organist) will be talking about working with children and music. The 2026 ACW AGM is May 27, 2026 – the main business day will be virtual and Thunder Bay will be hosting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: Resolutions from Synod

October 2025 minutes continued...

1. Evangelism Committee – Phelan suggested that the Diocese should be a resource for parishes and local initiatives should be shared by the Diocese. Jacquie ask for a definition of Evangelism. The question was also raised – how do you keep the church open in our communities financially.

2.Revision of Youth Ministry Plan – Phelan suggested that there should be a Deanery youth worker. Who in each parish, is passionate about this and would like to spearhead some ideas?

3.Strategies to Balance the Diocesan Budget – John Dunbar suggested that we need to live within our means. Susan Pincoe mentioned that insurance costs are astronomical and we don't have the option of shopping around. The Diocesan Administration & Finance committee may be of some assistance.

4.Transformative Commitments for ministry – the National Church is working on transformational pathways for ministry. Potential to result in changes in the way the Anglican Church of Canada is organized and governed.

The next Executive Committee meeting is November 13 and 14.

Moved by Sharon Boyuk that we adjourn at 8:28 pm. Phelan closed with prayer.

Archdeacon's Report to Deanery Council, February 22nd 2026

I am looking forward to seeing you all on-line for our "Deanery Zoom" meeting! It is always a joy to be together in whatever ways we can, and to hear all the good and hope-filled things happening in the various corners of Muskoka. A special welcome to those who will be attending this meeting for the first time. If you are a new Warden or other parish official, please know that the Deanery Council is full of people who can help and support you as you get accustomed to your leadership role. We are truly all in this together so please don't hesitate to ask questions or to share concerns.

As many of our congregations have had or are soon to have their Annual Vestry meetings, a friendly reminder to please send your annual forms to the Synod Office by the end of this week (Feb. 28th). For the past few years I have had to follow-up on behalf of the Diocese with several congregations who did not send in their forms, or sent in only partial information. Believe me I don't like making those phone calls any more than you like getting them! Forms can be found on the Diocesan website under the search term "parish budget package" (or copy and paste this link: [Parish Budget Package | Diocese of Algoma](#)). Thank you!

Archdeacon's Report to Deanery Council, February 22nd 2026 cont'd

One of the conversations at our upcoming meeting will be around Deanery Dues – a very small amount of money asked for from each of our congregations to keep our Deanery bank account at a healthy level. Last year we used most of that money to send a youth delegate to Diocesan Synod, and realized that if we want to continue to support young people in that way, we are going to need to collect those dues and/or find other ways to build that account back up. Youth ministry is not the only thing that account can be used for, but it is a major one, and very worthy of our ongoing support.

Congratulations and a big thank you to Nancy Houghton who is representing Muskoka on the new Diocesan Evangelism task force, established at Diocesan Synod in 2025.

Finally, Archbishop Anne is coming to Muskoka for Holy Week! Precise times for some of the services and events are still being worked out, but please watch for a memo from myself or Rev. Heather when final arrangements are made.

Archdeacon's Report to Deanery Council, February 22nd 2026 cont'd

Everyone in the Deanery is welcome to attend any of the services at which our Archbishop will be presiding and preaching.

On Wednesday afternoon she will be with the parish of St. James Gravenhurst/Trinity All Saints Bala and Holy Manger Barkway,

On Wednesday evening she will officiate a Tenebrae service at Church of the Redeemer, Rosseau.

On Thursday evening she will celebrate and preach at the Maundy Thursday service at All Saints Huntsville (7 p.m.)

On Good Friday she will be with St. Thomas' Bracebridge.

All clergy, including Incumbents, retired clergy and honorary associates are welcome to the Clergy Quiet Day with Archbishop Anne on Tuesday, March 31st (All Saints).

With gratitude for the ministry we share,

Ven. Kelly Baetz, Archdeacon

Anglican Church Women (ACW)

SAVE THE DATE: Deanery gathering in Bala – Thursday, May 14, 2026

SAVE THE DATE: The Diocese of Algoma ACW Virtual Annual will take place on Wednesday, May 27, 2026.

“Throughout our history, Anglican Church Women have been known for faithful mission and outreach: in our parishes, across the diocese, throughout Canada, and around the world. That legacy continues because of you.

Thank you for your generosity, your compassion, and your willingness to serve. Your loving and giving spirit makes a difference every day. I look forward to gathering with many of you at our upcoming Zoom conference, sponsored by the Thunder Bay–North Shore Deanery, at the end of May. “

Barb Garvin

ACW Diocesan President

Deanery Business

Resources available on www.muskokachurches.com

Capital/Property projects application forms:

- under \$40k with funds available (short form)
- over \$40k and/or loan required (long form)
- Safety & Emergency Plan template
- Accessibility Policy template
- Rental Usage Agreement template
- Video and print resources for volunteer training in safety and accessibility
- Parish visit forms

Financial Report

Previous Balance:	\$336.33	
Income	.07	Interest
Expenses	<u>.00</u>	None
Current Balance:	\$336.41	

NOTES:

- Annual donation toward Deanery activities is \$30
- Bank now requires cheques payable to 'MUSKOKA DEANERY'.
- Please mail to Shirley Burton, PO Box 71, Baysville, ON, P0A 1B0

DISCUSSION ITEM: Funds for Youth Delegates to Synod

Resolutions arising from Synod 2025

- **EVANGELISM:** The Diocese of Algoma asks Archbishop Anne Germond to establish a Diocesan Evangelism Committee, composed of clergy and laity from all five Deaneries. The purpose of the committee will be to develop a diocesan evangelism strategy by: -reviewing Anglican evangelism resources -providing resources to congregations to assist with their evangelism efforts -organizing diocesan evangelism events.
- **YOUTH MINISTRY:** The Synod of the Diocese of Algoma resolves to transform its Pastoral Plan for Child and Youth Ministry and entrusts its Executive Committee to steward the education, consultation, and discernment necessary to present a revised plan for the consideration of the next Synod.

Resolutions arising from Synod 2025

- **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT** The Diocese of Algoma asks the Executive Committee to develop strategies for achieving a balanced operational budget, including balancing the budget without using unrestricted reserve funds, accompanied by a time of prayer and fasting in our Diocese.
- **MINISTRY** The Synod of the Diocese of Algoma resolves to undertake a transformational process guided by the Transformational Commitments of our General Synod, and entrusts its Executive Committee to steward the education and consultation necessary for the consideration of the next Synod.