

A photograph of a church with a steeple in the background, partially obscured by bare trees. The foreground is a field covered in fallen autumn leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and red, with some dark gravel visible. The overall atmosphere is misty and serene.

Muskoka Deanery Council

October 28, 2025

Agenda

1. Opening Prayer
2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
3. Review and Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
4. Review and Adoption of the Financial Report
5. Ministry Reports: Archdeacon, ACW, Lay Readers, AFC
6. Discussion Item: Motions arising from Synod 2025
7. Additional Business
8. Adjourn

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Deanery Council Meeting

April 29, 2025

By Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm with 31 in attendance. Heather showed a short “Say Yes to Kids” video from the Anglican Foundation and a link was circulated.

Agenda: Moved by Jacquie Howell, seconded by Sharon Boyuk, that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

Minutes: It was asked to clarify from the previous minutes that the Celebration of New Ministry and the Dinner in Emsdale were 2 separate events. Moved by Nancy Houghton seconded by Phelan Scanlon that the Minutes of the February 25, 2025 be adopted as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising: Sharon Creasor from St. Thomas, Ullswater was able to apply for the building permit. They need to request a variance and spoke to the insurance company about the volunteer effort.

Emsdale had an engineer look at the bell tower in Emsdale – it is in bad shape.

Minutes from Previous Meeting continued...

Financial Report: Moved by John Dunbar, seconded by Kelly Baetz that the Financial Report be accepted as presented. Carried.

Archdeacon's Report: We were reminded that we need to get our items for the Synod basket to Kelly so she can assemble the basket. She advised that there is good leadership coverage in all of the parishes and reminded that we are to contact her for help with filling vacation spots. We need the Archbishop's approval for visitors from outside the Diocese to fill in. Kelly and James Hunt will be attending General Synod. If there are any concerns, please forward to Kelly and/or James. We welcome Lia as Youth Delegate. Last Friday 33 ACW met at St. James for a wonderful meeting. It was decided Deanery ACW would support the Anglican Foundation's Say Yes to Kids program. The Annual ACW Diocesan meeting will be held in Sault Ste. Marie.

Anglican Foundation: Say Yes to Kids foundation video was shown. Emsdale is receiving support from this project.

Minutes from Previous Meeting continued...

Synod Preparation: this portion of the meeting was recorded. Heather showed folks where to find the materials on the Diocesan website including the sending delegates to Synod service form. Heather explained what was happening at each spot on the agenda and the canonical motions that are being proposed were discussed.

Jane Meisch and Jennifer Baron presented the draft budget. We were reminded that Synod cannot spend money but can make a recommendation to Executive Council. The apportionment is increasing for 2026 and 2027 because givings at the parish level are increasing. The Diocese is hoping to get back to the pre-Covid (2019) level. There will no longer be an apportionment adjustment for the previous year. The calculation will be set in December

for the following year. Provincial Admin support is support for Archbishop Anne's duties as Metropolitan. Line 8 was money for Archbishop Anne's duties as acting Primate. Legal fees have increased due to transfers of properties and the surplus for the year was largely due to staff vacancies at the Synod office. The Synod office uses accrual based accounting. It was noted that receivables are very high at the moment.

There was a 20 minute insurance plenary regarding Third Party insurance (on line 0 by Larry Dey of Dawson & Keenan. At this point recording of the meeting ended.

Minutes from Previous Meeting continued...

Elections: There was a call for nominations of youth delegates (ages 16 to 24). No names were put forward.

Lay Steward (must be a Synod Delegate). Pam Thornton nominated Colin Edwards and Jane Templeton seconded. Colin accepted the nomination. Jacquie Howell moved that nominations be closed and Nancy Houghton seconded. Carried. Colin was acclaimed.

At this point, Kelly took over as chair of the meeting and asked for nominations for Regional Dean (must be ordained for at least 2 years). Jane Templeton nominated Heather Manuel and Pam Thornton Seconded. Heather accepted the nomination. And was acclaimed.

Moved by Sharon Creasor that we adjourn at 8:34 pm.

We closed with the Grace.

Respectfully,

Janet Borneman

Financial Report

Previous Balance: \$1315.88

Income: \$120.00 parish donations

Expenses: \$1099.47 bank charge & Synod Expense

Current Balance: \$336.33

- 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

Archdeacon's Report – October 2025

“With joy you will drink deeply from the fountain of salvation” (Isaiah 12:3)

Hello Deanery Council! I am looking forward to “seeing” you during our Zoom meeting tomorrow night. With so many towns and villages in our Deanery, our shared ministry can at times feel quite scattered and separate. It is important to nurture opportunities such as Deanery Council meeting to connect with one another and to share. I encourage you to take advantage of multi-church and deanery gatherings as available, such as the meeting for Anglican women happening this Wednesday in Emsdale. I further encourage you to sign up to receive Diocesan news (the newly launched “Algoma Anglican Weekly News”), published every Friday, by visiting <https://www.tinyurl.com/awnssubscribe>

As October winds up, so too do the Sunday services of our seasonal churches. We give thanks for all the people who worship at Anglican Churches in the summer and early fall here in Muskoka, and for all the leaders, lay and ordained, who ensure those seasonal buildings are cared for and that ministry continues in various ways over the winter months.

Archdeacon's Report continued...

I am glad to report that I was able to visit nine of our congregations in my role as Archdeacon this summer! Celebrations including the ordination of The Rev. Cory Brunatti to the sacred order of deacons, the dedication of a new healing garden at Parish of the Good Shepherd (Emsdale), and the licensing of Anne Fullerton as a new Layreader in Windermere made for a joyful few months. I also officiated services in Ullswater, Orrville (a baptism of three children!), and St. James Ilfracombe. Thank you to all. If you are celebrating a special event over the coming months and would like me to be there, please let me know and I will do my best to get it on my calendar.

Diocesan Executive Committee is coming up in November and one of the things we will be talking about is the Anne Germond Legacy Fund. If you were at Synod or have otherwise heard about this, it will not be news to you that the Diocese has launched a major financial campaign with the goal of raising enough money to permanently fund the office of Bishop for the Diocese of Algoma. So far, a little more than one million has been raised. A team is working together to continue to promote and champion this effort, but as of today, Muskoka still does not have a representative on this team.

Archdeacon's Report continued...

If you are interested please reach out to me. You can find out more about the Anne Germond Legacy Fund at anneslegacyfund.ca

Finally, a message for you from Archbishop Anne, written for Deanery Councils gathering this fall across our Diocese: *In times of uncertainty, when the weight of ministry feels heavy and resources seem few or even scarce, remember this -you are not alone. The same Spirit who hovered above Jesus at his baptism naming him 'Beloved', who breathed life into the Church on Pentecost is the Spirit who sustains you now. Our calling is not dependent upon abundance but on faithfulness. I have experienced this truth in my own life and know that God is always faithful. The challenges are real. Budgets are tight and willing hands are hard to find. But let us never forget that God has always done God's most powerful work through small, unlikely and even weary vessels. Think of the widow's oil that never ran dry, the loaves and fishes that fed thousands. The mustard seed that grew into a tree. Your ministry may fragile and overlooked. But it is precious in the eyes of God.*

Archdeacon's Report continued...

God is not asking us for success, God is asking us to persevere. So, keep showing up. Keep praying. Keep looking for joy from the wells of salvation. Keep loving, even when it feels as if you are pouring from an empty cup. Know this - you and me are part of something much bigger than what we can see with our own eyes. This is the quiet, steady unfolding of God's kingdom that we are a part of today. I find encouragement in Paul's words to the Thessalonians - "He who calls you is faithful, and he will do it." (1 Thess. 5.24). Know that I am grateful to each and every one of you for the ministry you undertake, but more importantly for the generous, heartfelt way in which you do it.

Your fellow servant in the gospel and your bishop, +Anne

Please share the Archbishop's message with others in your congregations as you are able. With thanks for God's grace and for the ministry we share,

Kelly Baetz, Archdeacon

Anglican Church Women (ACW)

MUSKOKA WOMEN

COME ONE COME ALL

Church of the Good Shepherd Emsdale

Wednesday October 29, 2025

10:00 AM Registration Cost 15.00

10:30 Service led by Rev. Catharine

Hot Lunch

Speaker

PLEASE advise Sharon Boyuk

705 636- 5009

or risingsunep53@gmail.com

The Diocese of Algoma

ACW Virtual Annual

will take place on

Wednesday, May 27, 2026.

More details will be forthcoming
regarding start time and agenda.

Anglican Foundation Report

- As many of you are aware, the Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC) has been in operation for over 65 years, helping dioceses, parishes and individuals from sea to sea to sea. The Mission Statement of the AFC states that the Anglican Foundation of Canada supports ministries of the Anglican Church throughout Canada by enabling connections, fostering innovations, stewardship resources and connecting generous donors in their philanthropic goals. Our plan is based on AFC values of faith, innovation, generosity, trust and inclusivity.
- From January to September of 2025, AFC has distributed over \$450,000 to the five main areas Diverse Infrastructure, Community Ministries, Leadership and Education, Indigenous Ministries and Sacred Music and Arts. Since 2021, nearly \$900,00 from the Say Yes To Kids campaigns has funded youth focused ministries supporting dozens of programs in areas such as mental health, food security, arts and music as well as outdoor recreation. In 2025, 30 teams reached or exceeded their goal and raised \$160,000.

Anglican Foundation Report continued...

AFC is currently conducting their annual Membership drive. As Rev. Amy Hamilton, Interim CEO has stated, “ AFC is investing in a Church of Tomorrow, Today”

Please consider renewing your membership or joining .

On-line at anglicanfoundation.org/membership

OR. Phone (toll free) 1-877-354-6387. OR E- transfer——
donate@anglicanfoundation.org.

Put your mailing address in the message line to receive a receipt.
Call me if I can answer your questions or help in any way Anne
Wilson, Algoma Representative to AFC, 705-648-3625.
originalanne@yahoo.com

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 continued...

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.